FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JANUARY 1987

### Iran-Iraq War

Voice of the Masses radio broadcast reports of further missile and air attacks on Iranian cities 14 January. Surface-to-surface missiles struck Bakhtaran, Borujerd, Masjed-e Soleyman, and Dezful, while warplanes raided Qom, Ilam, Gilan-e Gharb, Dezful, and Esfahan. "Scores" of planes participated in the first of two raids on Qom, while 16 aircraft were involved in the attack on Ilam.

IRNA announced that 25 civilians were killed and 100 wounded by Iraq's attack on Qom, citing a military spokesman's view that the raid show's Iraq's lack of respect for the sanctity of holy cities. IRNA said this was the first time Qom had been bombed since the start of the war, though Iraq has previously announced raids on the city. As for the Iraqi missile attacks, IRNA reported that 30 civilians were killed and 130 wounded by the strikes on Masjed-e Soleyman and Dezful. An Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses stated that 6 Iraqi civilians were killed and 21 wounded in Iranian artillery and air attacks.

At the battlefronts, Iranian forces defeated counterattacks by Iraq's II Army Corps north of Sumar, according to IRNA, while new Iraqi units were "systematically annihilated" west of Shalamcheh. The agency's tally of Iraqi losses in Karbala 5 rose to 20,000 casualties and 40 aircraft downed, and it also reported that "scores" of Iraqi officers were killed in a 15 January Iranian missile attack on a command post belonging to Iraq's III Corps. Iran suffered casualties from Iraqi chemical weapons, IRNA said, but its troops continued to press toward Basra west of the 9 km long Fish Lake.

In contrast, Iraqi statements cited by INA maintained that Iraqi forces advanced southeast of Fish Lake and that Iraq's II Corps crushed another Iranian attack in the central sector 14-15 January. Iraqi planes raided Hawk missile batteries behind Iranian lines 14 and 15 January, according to statements carried by Voice of the Masses, and an Iranian plane was downed over the southern front.

Regarding Iranian-Soviet differences over the war, IRNA disclosed that the Iranian ambassador to Moscow met with the Soviet foreign minister 14 January to protest a recent statement made by the Soviet UN representative. Eduard Shevardnadze reportedly replied that the Soviet position had been "distorted by imperialist media" and reaffirmed his country's neutrality in the war. He also stressed the USSR's desire to expand relations with Iran and invited the Iranian foreign minister to visit Moscow soon, IRNA added.

### Afghanistan

PDPA General Secretary Najibullah officially confirmed the beginning of a cease-fire from midnight 15 January to 16 July, BAKHTAR reported. Najibullah proposed that an extraordinary supreme commission and local commissions for national reconciliation representing "both sides on an equal basis" be created. He advocated mutually beneficial talks "at all levels" that would result in "an agreement on complete peace and without any time limit on Afghan soil by both sides."

### GUNT Delegation in Algeria

President of the new Chadian GUNT Acheikh ibn Oumar and an accompanying delegation arrived in Algeria 13 January to hold talks on the recent developments inside Chad, Libya's Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported.

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### 'Arafat, Jordan's Husayn May Meet at Summit

*NC141512 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — The Egyptian *Al-Musawwar* magazine says it is almost certain that Jordan's King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will meet during the Islamic summit scheduled for Kuwait this month.

In its 16 January edition, the magazine reports that Palestinian sources have confirmed that King Husayn and 'Arafat will meet to discuss the revival of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee in charge of support for Palestinian steadfastness in the occupied territories. They also will discuss the question of Palestinian-Jordanian coordination in the peace talks. This coordination is governed by the February 1985 agreement.

The magazine reveals that during a recent visit to Cairo, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, met with Hikmat al-Masri, deputy speaker of the Jordanian Senate.

If the King Husayn-'Arafat meeting is successful, the magazine adds, it will be the culmination of intensive efforts made by Egypt over the last few months to convince Jordan and the Palestinians to continue a dialogue to resolve their differences.

### Coordination To Resume

*JN142048 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Jan 87 pp 1, 23*

[Text] Cairo — *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* — Egyptian presidency sources have disclosed to *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* that the visit to Tunis last Thursday by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian Foreign Ministry under secretary and head of the Egyptian President's Office for Political Affairs — the visit in which Dr al-Baz met with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat — took place in response to a PLO request. That request was conveyed to Cairo by Sa'id Kamal, deputy chief of the PLO Political Department for Egyptian affairs, who met with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid. On the following day Sa'id Kamal accompanied Dr al-Baz to Tunis.

Dr al-Baz briefed the Palestinian leader on the latest developments in Egyptian mediation efforts to resume a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. Dr al-Baz also presented to 'Arafat the overall Jordanian reactions, which Cairo has received from Amman, to Palestinian replies to Jordanian conditions for Jordanian-Palestinian coordination.

Egyptian sources affirmed that the resumption of Jordanian-Palestinian coordination and of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord will be announced at a news conference to be held soon by the Jordanian monarch and 'Arafat. The sources stated that the announcement on reactivating the Jordanian-Palestinian accord to give momentum to peace efforts in the Middle East will not contain any amendments to the agreement. The announcement will only include the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships' decision to reactivate the Jordanian-Palestinian accord.

### Egyptian Socialist on Efforts To End Camps War

*PM141415 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 30 Dec 86 p 2*

[Interview with Socialist Labor Party leader Ibrahim Shukri by Dr. Mahjub 'Umar; date and place not given]

[Excerpts]['Umar] An Egyptian party delegation has undertaken a second visit because of the so-called "camps war" in Lebanon. The first visit was to Damascus, and the second was to Baghdad. Although it is supposed that during your trip to Damascus you met with all parties to the current fighting, upon your return you announced your intention to visit Brother Yasir 'Arafat in Baghdad to complete the mission of the Egyptian parties that are endeavoring to spare Arab blood and maintain the Palestinian revolution. Has the visit to Baghdad brought anything new?

[Shukri] The situation has become clearer. No one should forget that Brother Yasir 'Arafat is the Palestinian people's leader and the PLO chairman and has all the detailed information. He is in daily contact with many factions, and it is well known that he is the decisionmaker. Those who are besieging and shelling the camps say that they are fighting the "Arafatites," that is, 'Arafat's followers. Therefore, it was necessary to meet and talk with him about what is going on. If we had not followed up our visit to Damascus with a visit to Baghdad and a meeting with brother Yasir 'Arafat, people would be unaware of the truth of our endeavors. We are not mediators, as I have said before. We are in the same trench as the Palestinian revolution. All we are working for is to protect the rear of this gun [reference to Palestinian revolution] to concentrate on fighting the Zionist enemy, especially now that the heroic uprising is spreading across the occupied land, against the Israeli occupation and the racist settlers. The continuation of the siege and bloodshed in Lebanon benefits no one.

['Umar] What did brother 'Arafat say to the Egyptian party delegation?

[Shukri] The man talked with great sadness on what is happening. He confirmed the Palestinian revolution's constant and firm stand, its eagerness not to get involved in any side battles and not to waste resources, but instead to direct all Arab guns at the Zionist enemy. 'Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] pointed out that the current fighting was imposed on the Palestinians in Lebanon by forces openly opposed to the Palestinians' return to Lebanon. So, we do not know where they will go to, if not to the countries surrounding occupied Palestine, and we ask that they be given free movement on all fronts. Those requesting the Palestinians to take certain stands should themselves first acknowledge the Palestinians' right of existence and freedom of movement before they ask them for anything. For them to besiege the Palestinians and then tell them not to resist is unacceptable in any circumstance.

['Umar] Does this mean that Brother Yasir 'Arafat is ready to accept a halt to the current fighting in the camps?

[Shukri] Brother 'Abu 'Ammar confirmed his belief on the need for a cease-fire to be effected as soon as possible. He confirmed that the Palestinian leadership has accepted all initiatives,

regardless of their source, to reach a cease-fire and lift the siege immediately. The Palestinian revolution sets no conditions to the cease-fire except that others cease firing and lift the siege. This is the initial Palestinian stand, confirmed during our visit with the Palestinian factions in Damascus. We were further convinced by our meeting with 'Abu 'Ammar.

['Umar] But the Amal Movement spokesman claims that the ""Arafatites" are the ones who reject a cease-fire and obstruct the attempts to reach an agreement?

[Shukri] The matter is clear and simple. The Palestinians in the camps are being exposed to barbaric attacks. No one could imagine that if the shelling against them is halted they will stir it up again; or that, if the siege is lifted and the kidnapping on the roads is stopped, they will continue to fight. In this dirty war the Palestinian side is the defender, not the aggressor, and so the continuation of the fighting is not in their favor.

['Umar] It is reported that the Palestinian leadership has rejected the Iranian and other initiatives.

[Shukri] Brother Yasir 'Arafat has confirmed to us otherwise. He explained how the Palestinian leadership accepted the Iranian and other initiatives. He expressed immediate readiness for all positions around the camps be handed over to forces not involved in the fighting against the camps. [passage omitted]

['Umar] But news agencies report that the Amal Movement claims that the Palestinians did not withdraw from the village of Maghdushah near the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, and that Amal considers this a violation of the agreement concluded by the Iranians.

[Shukri] First, the Palestinian fighters did withdraw from a number of positions in Maghdushah and hand them over to Hizballah fighters, as arranged, but the siege on the roads continued. The Palestinian leadership raised the issue of handing over the remaining positions to a joint force of Lebanese national, pan-Arab, and Islamic forces not involved in the fighting against the camps. The Amal Movement leadership rejected this and continues to shell and besiege the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in Beirut.

['Umar] News agencies in Damascus say that some Palestinian factions hold Brother Yasir 'Arafat responsible for not implementing the agreement?

[Shukri] In fact there is complete unity on the Palestinian stand in the camps in Lebanon. The Palestinian leaderships immediately realized the danger of showing any disagreement, but we indeed heard the statements of DFLP and PFLP leaders warning about a plot to stir up Palestinian clashes. It is clear that there are continuous attempts to agitate some Palestinian factions against the PLO leadership, but so far without success. Statements from the other side have continued to attack the Palestine National Salvation Front in Damascus and accuse it of collaboration with Yasir 'Arafat.

['Umar] Does such collaboration exist?

[Shukri] Information is not available to us, but this is not unlikely. [passage omitted]

['Umar] What is Brother Yasir 'Arafat's view of this?

[Shukri] Brother Abu 'Ammar has expressed, as I said, readiness to reach any agreement that would protect the Palestinians in the camps and guarantee for them the human rights of movement and work — and, of course, the right of every Palestinian to fight against the Zionist enemy.

['Umar] But the Amal leaders say that this would expose southern Lebanon to danger.

[Shukri] Southern Lebanon is already occupied. Heroic resistance operations are being undertaken there by Lebanese and Palestinian fighters. Israel is after the south and its water. It is at present playing around with Lebanon as a whole. I do not believe any Arab would stand guard over Israel's security against the real owners of the land. [passage omitted]

['Umar] While the Egyptian party delegation was in Baghdad new massacres took place in Tripoli in the north. What was the impact of this on you and Brother Yasir 'Arafat?

[Shukri] We were, of course, saddened and disturbed. These painful incidents brought new proof that the problem is not the ""Arafatites" or even the Palestinians. The problem is, it seems, the attempt to control whoever is on Lebanese soil, whether Palestinian or Lebanese. This shows that the current fighting in Lebanon is not attributable to the fundamental disputes.

['Umar] The Syrian forces stormed Tripoli's popular districts with tanks. News agencies reported that houses were destroyed while still occupied. It also was reported that hundreds of people were arrested, a siege was imposed on the two Palestinian camps Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi in north Lebanon, and military patrols combed them. At the same time, observers confirm that Syrian special units are attacking Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in Beirut. Some interpret this as a reflection of differences between Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat. Are all these massacres the result of differences between two people?

[Shukri] Of course not. It is not a question of a dispute between Al-Asad and 'Arafat. 'Abu 'Ammar expressed to us his readiness to meet with Al-Asad and agree on how to stop the bloodshed. What is happening is too complicated to be explained by such a simple interpretation. There are struggling forces in the region, and aggressive forces; namely, the United States and Israel trying to impose their conditions. Therefore it is logical that the direct rivals to these forces are the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese resistance forces, and that any attempt to weaken the latter would be in harmony with the aggressor's objectives. It seems that those who are unable to confront the Israeli enemy and the United States are worried about the presence of a national Palestinian and Lebanese resistance, and perhaps fear they might affect their own power. The danger lies in the fact that the attempt to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese resistance inevitably leads to the deepening of sectarian partition in Lebanon. Whoever believes he can rule the area by dividing it on a sectarian basis is deluding himself, because this

will not [as published] lead to the increase of the Israeli enemy's force. [passage omitted]

['Umar] How does brother 'Abu 'Ammar visualize the end of these massacres and the bloodbath?

[Shukri] He sees what we see: The situation cannot be rectified without a positive and active Egyptian role, in the Arab arena in general, and in Lebanon in particular. In any event, he is ready to accept all initiatives for a cease-fire. He requests nothing other than the protection of the Palestinian people from current and future massacres, God forbid, along with their human right to work to recover their land. Therefore he contacts all those concerned and works with them. He was in constant contact with the Iranian leadership despite his presence in Baghdad. Everyone knows what is between them.

## KUWAIT

### Preparation Continues for Fifth ICO Summit

#### USSR, Iran Send Messages

*LD150942 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0844 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Jan (KUNA) — KUNA has learned that ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada today received two messages, one from the Soviet leadership and one from the Iranian leadership. The first message was conveyed by Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Ernest Zverev when he met with Mr Pirzada at his residence at the Hilton Hotel this morning.

The second message was conveyed by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Kuwait, Mohammad Reza Baqeri. Sources very close to Mr Pirzada apologized for being unable to disclose the contents of the two messages, but they described them as urgent and connected with the fifth Islamic summit conference, which will be held here 26 January.

These sources revealed that in Jeddah, before arriving in Kuwait, Mr Pirzada met with U.S. and West European ambassadors in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and discussed issues relating to the Islamic summit.

#### Al-Jabir Writes to Iran

*LD151103 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1037 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Jan (KUNA) Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, sent a letter to his Iranian colleague Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati. KUNA learned from an official source that the letter was sent to brief Dr Velayati on the latest arrangements made for the fifth Islamic summit conference in Kuwait on 26 January and for the meetings to be held prior to the summit. The letter also contained Kuwait's welcome for the participation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this conference so that "it can participate with its sister Islamic states in discussing and dealing with all current urgent issues of the Islamic World." The letter was handed to the Iranian charge d'affaires in Kuwait, Mohammed Reza Baqeri, at the Kuwait Foreign Ministry yesterday afternoon.

#### Pirzada, Officials Discuss Summit

*LD141517 Kuwait KUNA in English 1403 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 14 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad received today secretary general [of] the Organization of Islamic Conference Sharifuddin Pirzada, who is at present visiting Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by minister of public work and chairman of the higher committee preparing for the fifth Islamic summit engineer 'Abd al-Rahman al-Huti and director of the deputy premier and foreign minister's bureau 'Abdallah Sa'ud 'Abd al-Razak, acting director of the Political Department at the Kuwait Foreign Ministry 'Abd al-'Aziz Sharekh, and councellor at the Economic Department of the Foreign Ministry Ahmad al-Ibrahim.

Following the meeting, Shaykh Sabah told newsmen he examined with Pirzada the logistics in relation to the Islamic summit that will be held here Jan 26, particularly as far as preparations are concerned and measures to host the leaders of the Islamic states in addition to a review of the proposed agenda.

Shaykh Sabah expressed hope that listed topics and the anticipated resolutions of the summit will contribute towards strengthening the Islamic nation.

He paid tribute to the efforts of Mr Pirzada and said the secretary general of the Islamic organization is instrumental "in everything that secures means to render the summit a success."

Shaykh Sabah noted that official meetings will begin with one for senior experts followed by the preparatory conference of foreign ministers that will precede the summit on Jan 26.

He expressed conviction that the senior experts and foreign ministers will be able to sort out the items on the agenda in a way to allow the summiteers to focus on definite and basic issues that will bear "great and positive fruit" on the conference and Moslems everywhere.

In the meantime, Pirzada told newsmen following his meeting with Shaykh Sabah that he started his visit to Kuwait with a meeting with H.H. the Amir of Kuwait and H.H. Crown Prince and premier and deputy premier.

He said he carried out lengthy and elaborate discussions in his meetings with the Kuwaiti officials covering the convening of the fifth Islamic summit and the massive preparations undertaken to assure the success of that meeting.

Pirzada described his talks with Kuwait officials as "fruitful and positive."

Pirzada stressed that the Islamic summit will be held on schedule Jan 26, and all issues on the agenda relevant to the Islamic world will be discussed, particularly action to achieve Islamic solidarity.

Pirzada urged all member countries in his organization to effectively participate in making the conference successful by examining all cases and problems related to the Islamic world.

He pointed out that all member states in the organization of the Islamic Conference had informed him of their approval to attend the meeting.

Pirzada noted that this is the first time he witnessed that degree of conspicuous and apparent interest from the Moslem countries in favor of convening a summit. He believes the special interest is in view of the magnitude of issues slated to be examined in the forthcoming summit.

Asked if the good offices of the Islamic committee will resume endeavors to stop the Iraq-Iran war, Pirzada said that matter is

left to the summit to decide on after it studies a report submitted from the committee on the results of its previous efforts and contacts.

Pirzada is scheduled to confer tomorrow with undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry Sulayman Majid al-Shahin.

Pirzada was a guest of honor at a luncheon this afternoon hosted by Minister of State for Municipality Affairs 'Abd al-Rahman al-Ghunaym at the panoramic Kuwait towers that span the Gulf and the city.

The luncheon was attended by a large number of Kuwaiti ministers and ranking officials as well as the secretary (mayor) of Jerusalem Rouhi al-Khatib, who is currently on a visit here to declare the twinship of Kuwait and the holy Arab city of Jerusalem.

### GCC's Bisharah Comments

*JN141615 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 14 Jan (WAKH) — GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah has affirmed the inevitability of holding an Islamic summit and the importance of the topics on its agenda. In a statement to QNA, he described the convening of a summit at this particular time as a great opportunity for the Islamic nation's leaders to meet and close ranks to avert the dangers facing it. [passage omitted]

On the recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war and its effect on the summit, the GCC secretary general affirmed that the summit will be held at the defined date and venue. He added: We are determined to achieve this.

Answering a question on whether there are contacts by GCC states to guarantee the participation of all Islamic countries in the summit, he explained that contacts are under way with all Islamic countries to support the attendance of all states at the highest levels.

## OMAN

### Muscat Radio Carries Joint Communique With PDRY

*JN142014 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Omani-PDRY joint communique issued in Muscat and Aden on 14 January at the end of PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister al-Dali's visit to Oman]

[Text] In reply to an invitation extended by Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, the minister of state for foreign affairs, PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al- Dali visited the Sultanate of Oman at the head of an official delegation from 11-14 January 1987. His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received the PDRY foreign affairs minister, who conveyed a written message from Hadar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the People's Council Presidium, to His Majesty Sultan Qabus and also conveyed the greetings of the PDRY president. Official talks were held between the Omani and PDRY sides. Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, headed the Omani side, while PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali headed the PDRY side. Talks were held in a fraternal atmosphere reflecting the two sides' desire to strengthen and enhance the ties of fraternity between the two countries and peoples as well as their eagerness to enhance the security and stability of the region.

The two sides also voiced satisfaction with the advanced level of bilateral relations and with the positive steps taken since the two countries' governments signed a statement of principles. To affirm their desire to enhance and develop fraternal bilateral relations, the two countries have agreed on the following:

1. To form a ministerial committee headed by both countries' foreign affairs ministers to expand and develop areas of bilateral cooperation.

2. To encourage visits and meetings between both countries' officials.

During the talks, both sides reviewed the situation in the region, Arab and international affairs, and issues of common interest. PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Abd al- 'Aziz al-Dali and the delegation accompanying him expressed their deep thanks for the hospitality accorded to them during their stay in the Sultanate.

### Al-Dali Holds News Conference

*JN142115 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali left the country at noon today following a visit to the Sultanate during which he was received by His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. The PDRY minister and the delegation accompanying him were seen off by Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and a number of heads of departments of the Foreign Ministry.

Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, PDRY minister of foreign affairs, held a news conference at the Al-Ghubrah guest house this morning. Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali began by thanking His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and his Omani counterpart for the reception and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation during his stay in the Sultanate and also for the talks he held with high-ranking officials of the Sultanate. The PDRY minister expressed the hope these talks would have fruitful results on all levels for the benefit of both peoples.

In reply to questions by reporters, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al- Dali talked about bilateral relations and the importance of his talks with officials of the Sultanate. Al-Dali said: This is the first visit I have made to the Sultanate, but it is not the first meeting between the PDRY and Oman. He indicated that previous meetings were held between him and Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ib 'Abdallah. He addod: During the previous phases of contacts between the two countries, we agreed on a set of issues. The first step in

this regard was represented by the signing of a statement of principles between the two fraternal countries.

The PDRY minister said: My visit to the Sultanate can be considered a step complementing the talks which were held at previous stages and which fall within the framework of the agreement to develop and enhance bilateral relations, to explore areas in which cooperation between the two governments' countries can be attained, and to enhance contacts and relations between the two fraternal peoples.

The PDRY minister emphasized that the importance of this visit is derived from the fact it is taking place at a time when the region is going through difficult and extremely complicated circumstances. He indicated there is an urgent need to develop relations among all Arab states and peoples and not only between Oman and the PDRY.

In reply to a question about marking the borders between the two countries, Dr al-Dali said: There is a program set by the technical border committee. We, he added, have agreed on a new date for the meeting of this committee. The date of this meeting will be announced later. He emphasized this committee is committed to observing this program. He expressed the hope that results of the committee meetings would be positive.

The PDRY foreign affairs minister also talked about establishing diplomatic relations at an ambassadorial level between Oman and the PDRY and said: I believe 1987 will witness the opening of the two countries' embassies in both capitals. He indicated that setting the date for opening the embassies will be done later and added that the decision in this regard will be announced in both countries.

Answering a question about whether an agreement was reached on information or cultural cooperation or on any other form of rapprochment between the two peoples in view of the talks held between the two sides, the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs said: Undoubtedly when a statement that specifies such issues is issued, this statement is aimed at organizing bilateral cooperation. He added: A program that will be agreed on was set up to enhance bilateral cooperation and to explore possible areas in which bilateral relations can be developed for the benefit of the two governments and peoples' interests.

On relations of the Sultanate and GCC states with the PDRY in view of recent developments, the Omani minister said: The development of relations between the Sultanate and the PDRY stems from the common desire of both countries' leaderships to develop these relations, especially after a statement of principles was signed by both countries. We have been able to reach this level of bilateral relations, with which we and our brothers in the PDRY are satisfied, thanks to both countries' sincere intentions in this regard and also to the sincere efforts exerted by the two countries' leaderships.

The Omani minister emphasized that the PDRY's relations with the GCC states are good. Answering a question about the contribution that could be made toward the success of the Fifth ICO Summit to be held in Kuwait on 26 January 1987 regarding Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's participation, the Omani minister said: Egypt's participation in the summit after being readmitted to the ICO will add further to joint Islamic efforts. He expressed the belief that Egypt, which represents an Arab and Islamic viewpoint, would have a great influence in support of Islamic solidarity.

The PDRY foreign affairs minister talked about Arab differences and the reasonable and suitable solutions which could help end these differences and said his country supports the holding of an Arab summit. He added: My country believes this summit, which may not result in solutions for all differences, may provide the basis for resolving some of these differences. He indicated his country supports the idea of holding direct dialogue among Arab officials. He expressed the hope that Arab countries would be able to bypass all secondary differences and focus on central issues related to the Arab nation's supreme interests.

The PDRY minister talked about the convocation of the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait and renewed his country's support for convening this summit as scheduled in Kuwait. He expressed the hope the summit would find suitable solutions for the issues on its agenda, foremost of which is the Iraq-Iran war. He warned against the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the possibility of a spillover of this war. He said: This constitutes a danger that jeopardizes the safety and security of the region's states and paves the way for the possibility of intervention by foreign forces in the region's affairs.

On his country's stand on the latest developments in the Lebanese arena, the PDRY minister expressed regret over the ongoing fighting between the Lebanese and Palestinians and added: Our country has exerted efforts to stop this fighting and bloodshed and continues to exert efforts in this regard. He expressed the hope that the efforts of the Arab League's camps war committee would be crowned with success.

He also talked about the issue of unity between the two parts of Yemen and emphasized that both countries have come a long way in this regard. He added: The Higher Yemeni Council, the ministerial committee, and the Secretariat of the Higher Yemeni Council have been formed. Dr al-Dali added: These are practical steps on the road to the unification of Yemen. He expressed the hope that the two leaderships of the two parts of Yemen would succeed in taking further steps to reunify Yemen through peaceful and democratic means.

## PDRY

### Coup Attempt Anniversary Marked in Aden

**13 Jan Rally**

*EA142101 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] A rally was held yesterday evening in the 'Abdallah (?Badhib) Institute for Scientific Socialism on the occasion of the first anniversary of the YSP victory over the 13 January abortive bloody coup conspiracy in memory of the souls of the martyrs of the conspiracy.

It was attended by brothers 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Central Committee; Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the Central Committee; Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium; Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers; brother members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee; ministers; members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Aden; and a large crowd of the sons of the martyrs and citizens.

Brother Ali Salim al-Bid delivered a speech at the rally during which he announced the People's Supreme Council Presidium's decision to confer the Order of Bravery on all the martyrs of the 13 January conspiracy and to confer on the martyr 'Abd al-Fattah Ismail the Order of Hero of Yemen — he had previously won the Order of the 14 October Revolution, the highest decoration in the republic; to confer on the martyr 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar the Order of Hero of Yemen — he had previously won the Order of the 14 October Revolution; to confer on the martyr Salih Muslih Qasim the Order of Independence since he had been the first person to win the Order of Hero of Yemen previously; to confer on the martyr 'Ali Shai Hadi the Order of Hero of Yemen — he had previously won the order of the 14 October Revolution; and to confer on the martyr Qasim al-Zawmahi the Order of Hero of Yemen — he had previously won the orders of the 14 October Revolution and of 22 June respectively.

He also announced the award to the martyr Thabit 'Abd Husayn of the Order of Hero of Yemen and the Order of the 14 October Revolution; the award to the martyr Muhammad Thabit Sufyan of the Order of Hero of Yemen and the Order of the 14 October Revolution; the award to the martyr Mahmud Ushaysh of the Order of the 14 October Revolution; the martyr Sa'id Salih al-Khaybah of the Order of the 14 October Revolution; the martyr Dr Mutlaq 'Abdallah Hasan of the Order of the 14 October Revolution; the martyr 'Ali Asad Muthanna of the Order of the 14 October Revolution; the martyr 'Abd al-Hamid Ahmad Sa'id of the Order of the 14 October Revolution; and the award to the martyr 'Abd al-Malik Muhammad 'Ali of the Order of the 14 October Revolution. [passage omitted]

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid expressed pride in the great success achieved by our party and people in eliminating the effects of the conspiracy; repairing the damage resulting from it; continuing to promote our economic, social, and cultural progress; reconstructing the party; strengthening the national unity of the people; consolidating security and stability; strengthening our defensive and security capability; restoring the status and role of our party and country in the Arab arena and national liberation movements throughout the world; and consolidating the pillars of the march of our country toward socialist orientation.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid called for the year 1987 to be a year of consolidating the victories and successes we achieved last year and of achieving further successes in light of plans and programs drawn up by the Central Committee and approved by the Supreme People's Council. He said it was incumbent on us to make maximum efforts to release the energies and initiative of the masses to achieve the goals of the party organizations, government organs, mass organisations, and the masses of workers in various political, economic, and social fields.

He stressed the need to continue to exercise high vigilance against the conspiracies and machinations of the class enemy, stressing our steely ability to crush them like all the other conspirators before them and our determination not to ignore any dangers to our national sovereignty and the security and stability of our people and our country.

The brother secretary general hailed the heroes of our Armed Forces and our security establishments who are vigilantly protecting the homeland, the gains of the revolution, and the security of the people, and who smashed all the reactionary conspiracies and sabotage plots through their sincere devotion to the party and the revolution.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid once again called on all deluded and misled brothers to return to their homeland and live in peace and stability among their relatives and families, on the basis of the General Amnesty Decree which has been extended to the end of July this year. He urged them to end the life of vagrancy and misery that the conspirators are trying to impose on them with a view to using them as trump cards to justify their abominable crimes and as cheap tools to continue their acts of killing and sabotage against the sons of the people. He said the doors of the homeland would remain open to all those to whom the General Amnesty Decree applied. He stressed that as for those whose hands were stained with the blood of the strugglers of our party and people, namely the contrivers and implementers of the black 13 January conspiracy, the judiciary would have its decisive and just say and that there was no room for dialogue with them and no pardon for them except the word of the judiciary based on the Constitution and the law in view of the disgraceful and dangerous crimes they perpetrated against the homeland, party, and people.

The brother secretary general of the Central Committee commended the great internationalist stand of the friendly Soviet Union by the side of our party and people during that painful ordeal. He said history would record on shining pages the brave stand of the Soviet Union and its glorious Communist Party against the efforts of hostile quarters that tried to exploit the painful bloody incidents that our country went through during the 13 January bloody conspiracy with the aim of undermining our progressive regime. That stand had a great and important effect in consolidating the heroic victories achieved by party members, the country's workers, and members of the Armed Forces in confronting the scattered remnants of conspirators who had lost their positions inside the country and sought foreign intervention. Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid reiterated our determination to continue developing militant relations in all spheres with the Soviet Union and all the countries of the socialist camp.

He also stressed our eagerness to develop joint unity work with the brothers in the northern part of the homeland in the interests of security and stability throughout the Yemeni arena and to strengthen progress towards restoring Yemeni unity by peaceful and democratic means.

He also expressed his pleasure at the development of militant relations with the Ethiopian revolution, he stressed the deter-

mination to develop relations of alliance and strong friendship between our country and Socialist Ethiopia on the basis of the common aims and principles of our Yemeni Socialist Party and the WPE.

He also stressed our eagerness to strengthen brotherly cooperation with all neighboring countries and sisterly Arab countries on the basis of peaceful coexistence, noninterference in internal affairs, mutual respect, and constructive cooperation.

Two other speeches were given at the rally on behalf of the department for the welfare of the families of the martyrs and the liberation war fighters by Brother Salih Ahmad Muqbil, member of the People's Supreme Council Presidium and director of the department; and on behalf of the families and children of the martyrs by a little girl named Rose, daughter of the martyr Thabit Abid Husayn.

### 12 Jan Al-Bid Speech

*EA141209 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1940 GMT 12 Jan 87*

[Speech by YSP Central Committee Secretary General 'Ali Salim al-Bid at meeting with "sons of martyrs" at Palestine Conference Hall, Crater, on 12 January to mark 1st anniversary of the "bloody coup conspiracy" — recorded]

[Excerpts] My beloved sons, comrades. We are happy to meet you here at this warm meeting, which confirms the YSP's determination to proceed in the footsteps of [word indistinct]. [applause] The YSP, which is determined to observe such occasions, does so to express its loyalty and high appreciation for all the martyrs of the Yemeni national movement, and your fathers belonged to this group. The existence of our Yemeni national movement is due to those heroic martyrs who were always the pioneers, the people to be emulated, for they were exemplary in making sacrifices springing from their love for the homeland, for liberty, for independence, and for lofty ideals. They also loved to struggle on behalf of the toiling masses.

Today we observe the first anniversary of the triumph of our Yemeni Socialist Party against the abortive bloody conspiracy of 13 January. Here we are observing it with our sons, the sons of the martyrs of the revolution, the Octoberists, and the pioneers. [passage omitted]

Today, as we stand here 1 year after the victory of our party and people over the conspiracy, we should consider what the party has done, what our masses have done since 13 January, that is, what is the stand of the party? What is the stand of the masses after 13 January, following the footsteps of those martyrs who offered their lives so we may go on living. We wish they could have stayed with us even for a few moments to see the victory of the party and the masses over the conspiracy, for then they would have died in peace, had they actually known what would happen. [passage omitted]

The party has worked hard to rebuild its institutions which were affected in the three governorates, Aden, Abyan, and Shabwah and the mass organizations have been reconstructed. There were elections for the Supreme People's Council and life has begun to return to normal. A year later, there is no doubt that life is better, things are better, and the future will also be better. After 1 year we can say that our party has overcome the adverse effects of that abortive bloody coup conspiracy.

However, there are some mental effects — some psychological effects on society. What I mean is nobody expected what happened to the country. Even when we in the leadership — the Central Committee, the Political Bureau — when we discussed things [words indistinct], we did not imagine these things could happen. We did not expect that, inside a party of the working class, there would be such treachery, and to such a degree, against the revolution. We were not vigilant.

Today, however, we consider the national interest above all, the interests of the security of the regime and its continuation and also the interests of the continuing neutrality of the leadership role of the YSP, in order to continue the struggle on behalf of the toiling masses and the poor.

The great cause for which the martyrs gave their lives is one we shall continue to cherish. It is our guide, it is our compass which will guide us to the right landmarks. What is the basis of all our dealings? How do we think? We think first about the safety of the homeland, the independence of the homeland, the safety of the regime, the strengthening of the party, the maintenance of the interests of the toiling masses. These are always the important questions. [passage omitted]

We are one people, and for this reason you should realize the enormity of what happened. He ['Ali Nasir Muhammad] made people fight. What for? 'Ali Nasir and his gang wanted to destroy national unity. He wanted people to be scattered and disunited. He wanted them to be as they were before. He wanted them to be loyal to their regions, to their tribes, to their villages, provinces, and governorates. This is what he wanted. He wanted to be in power or "after me, the deluge". This is the strife that occurred in the homeland. He contrived the conflict. 'Ali Nasir and his gang attempted to give the impression that there were differences between the regions. We say whole regions cannot differ. However, colleagues can differ. The toiling masses can differ with people of different tendencies. [passage omitted]

Now, your weapon to continue the revolution lies in education, science and education. Continue to learn because that will be your weapon. In fact, the gun is easy. We shall train you for a number of days and some of you already know how to use the gun. But the real weapon is education. You are the martyrs' sons but you must join the Yemeni Youth Organization and Pioneers. [passage omitted]

We must mold the youth from the beginning, from the time they are in nursery schools, when they are in the organizations, when they are Octoberists, when they are pioneers. When they are brought up as good pioneers, they will become excellent Ashidians [members of Youth Organization].

If they become excellent Ashidians, then inevitably they will be excellent party members later. In this way we can continue. As we get the martyrs' sons while they are young and they learn what

their fathers used to do, we shall give them the opportunity and guide them. We can later guarantee that the martyrs' sons will be very effective and will influence the history of our struggle and the life of our party and society.

I wish to assure you that matters are now all right. The country is all right. The party is getting stronger. The most important thing to know is that each of us is willing to die at any moment. [passage omitted]

After 13 January we now feel that our party is strong, indeed stronger than before. Our enemies are finished. They thought that after the events there would be opportunities to destroy the party. However, events proved that this party, which is very close to the masses, is difficult to get rid of. The party will become stronger through you, the younger generation. There are thousands like you and there are tens of thousands of Ashidians who are being educated in the ethics of this party. We shall overcome the difficulties and we shall have a better future. I want to assure you that the YSP will continue to take care of you, all the martyrs' sons, for our (?future) generations. [passage omitted]

Our party will never hesitate to seize all opportunities to ensure you a better life, a better future under the care of the YSP, the leader of our march and our protector. Thank you [applause]

## SAUDI ARABIA

### Beirut Urged To 'Act Promptly' To Find Diplomat

*LD141210 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1130 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] A responsible source stated to SPA that: The relevant Saudi authorities were informed by their sources in Lebanon that an employee of the Saudi Cultural Attache's Office, Bakr Damanhuri, who was left behind to supervise the affairs of Saudi students remaining in Beirut after the Saudi Embassy was looted and occupied 3 years ago, was kidnapped on Monday evening in West Beirut by armed men while he was on his way home in Al-Roushah.

The source stated that while the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia denounces and condemns these terrorist actions, whatever their forms or means, it appeals to the Lebanese authorities to act promptly for the release of the official and to reveal the full situation.

### Fahd Receives Pakistani Foreign Minister

*LD131923 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1800 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, received a message from his brother the Pakistani President Mohammed Ziaul Haq. The message was conveyed to Fahd by His Excellency Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Pakistani minister of foreign affairs, when he and the delegation accompanying him were received at the royal court this afternoon. [passage omitted]

## UAE

### QNA: Official on ICO Summit, Egypt's Return

*JN131000 Doha QNA in Arabic 0610 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jan (QNA) — The UAE has again emphasized the importance of convening the Fifth ICO Summit as scheduled in Kuwait.

Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, under secretary of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, said: Due to the extremely serious situation and challenges facing our Islamic and Arab regions and in view of the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and its sapping of human and material resources in Iraq and Iran, our country attaches great importance to the convocation of the ICO summit in Kuwait.

In a statement to the Abu Dhabi-based *Al-Wahdah* published today, the UAE official added: The convocation of the ICO summit will give Arab and Muslim leaders a chance to study the current state of affairs and adopt a unified strategy aimed at narrowing differences and finding solutions to the challenges facing the Islamic nation.

The UAE official expressed his country's hope that the ICO summit will achieve positive results that enhance the Arab and Islamic nation's capabilities and potentials in its confrontation of the eminent dangers threatening it. He also emphasized that his country will continue to exert efforts to settle Arab differences and end divisions to achieve Arab solidarity, which will enable the Arab nation to recover the occupied territories. He also referred to his country's constant stand on the Palestine question and its support for the Arab peace plan, which was adopted at the Fes summit.

Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid expressed the hope that Egypt will be able to join Arab ranks in view of the great importance we attach to this issue in terms of ability to achieve a military balance between the Arabs and Israel. He indicated, however, that this issue requires a unanimous Arab decision at an Arab summit.

### 'Abd al-Majid, Soviet Envoy Discuss Middle East

*NC141403 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with the Soviet ambassador in Cairo, today. In a statement afterward, the Soviet envoy said the discussions had dealt with efforts to prepare the way for a solution of international problems, particularly that of the Middle East. He noted that the talks focused on the UN General Assembly resolution calling for an international peace conference. The role of Egypt and the Soviet Union in giving an impetus to the peace process was examined as well.

The Soviet ambassador added that his country supports the idea of an international conference as an effective way of settling the regional dispute. He said that bilateral relations and the resumption of economic talks between the two countries next month were also touched on, as was the situation in the Gulf.

The envoy concluded his remarks by saying that he and Dr 'Abd al-Majid had reviewed the results of the Soviet Union's declaration of 15 January 1986 on nuclear disarmament. He pointed out that the United Nations has adopted a number of resolutions on this, and that Egypt and the Soviet Union have identical views on the need for cuts in nuclear arms.

### Soviet Envoy on Talks

*NC141514 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Soviet Ambassador in Cairo Gennadiy Zhuravlev said that during their meeting today he and 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, discussed ways of revitalizing the Middle East peace process. They also reviewed the efforts being made to end the Iraq-Iran war, which he described as "pointless."

Speaking at a news conference this afternoon, the Soviet ambassador stressed that an international conference for peace in the Middle East would create the appropriate environment in which to find a solution to this problem. He noted that the permanent Soviet envoy to the United Nations is currently holding consultations with the representatives of Arab countries in that organization regarding arrangements for a preparatory committee for the international conference. He said that the head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry also is in touch with Chinese officials in Beijing on the Middle East crisis.

The ambassador stated that his talks today with Dr 'Abd al-Majid also touched on the necessary arrangements for increasing the bilateral trade negotiation process. He noted that the two countries will hold another round of talks on this issue in Moscow in February. He expressed the hope that these talks will be successful.

He also said that he and Dr 'Abd al-Majid had discussed the question of Egypt's military debts to the Soviet Union, within the framework of promoting bilateral relations.

Replying to a question on the reopening of the Soviet Cultural Center and the Soviet Consulate in Cairo, Ambassador Zhuravlev said: These issues are still under discussion. We hope they will be resolved soon.

At his news conference, the Soviet ambassador noted that a year had passed since the Soviet Union put forward its proposals for eliminating nuclear weapons by the year 2000. He said that 1986 was "a difficult year" internationally, and expressed the hope that 1987 will be "the year of peace" for the entire world. In this regard, he stressed the Soviet Union's readiness to deal with all countries and parties concerned to solve problems by peaceful means.

### Moscow Requested To Cancel Interest Rate on Debt

*NC141430 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Press reports published here today indicate that the Egyptian-Soviet talks held recently in Cairo ended in full agreement on the basic outlines of the question of rescheduling the Egyptian debt to the Soviet Union. The two parties also reached final agreement on defining the volume of the debt, which totals 840 million Egyptian pounds, according to the contracts between the two countries.

In its Friday [16 January] issue, the Egyptian magazine *Al-Musawwar* says that the two parties also agreed to reschedule the debt with a grace period of 6 years, after which payment will start based on 19 annual installments; thus the period for repaying the debt, including the grace period, will be 25 years. The magazine adds that even though the Soviet side agreed to maintain the interest rate at its old level of 2 percent, President Husni Mubarak requested that Dr Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the Soviet State Bank and head of the delegation to the talks, ask Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to review the interest rate or to eliminate it completely.

*Al-Musawwar* adds that the Soviets are now studying an Egyptian proposal that 75 percent of the accumulated trade balance surplus, which favors Egypt in the amount of $400 million, be used to pay part of the military debt to the Soviet Union, with the latter settling the remainder in cash.

The magazine says: It is possible to say that the Egyptian and Soviet parties resolved most of their problems during the recent round of talks. The Soviet side promised to convey Cairo's desire to cancel the interest on the military debt so that the Egyptian-Soviet agreement on rescheduling debts will become an example for correct relations between the big powers and the Third World in its current economic crisis. The magazine also notes that the Soviet side expressed its country's readiness to send immediately, without delay or reservations, the spare parts needed for the Aswan high dam power plant to maintain the high performance of plant operations. According to the magazine, the Egyptian-Soviet talks also involved the resumption of Soviet exports of spare parts for a number of weapons still in the possession of the Armed Forces and that are still serviceable, despite reaching the end of their expected lifespan. *Al-Musawwar* said the final and

last round of talks between the two countries is to be held in Moscow at the end of February.

The talks between the two sides, held last November, resulted in the signing of approximately 20 protocols, the most important being a study of the plan to expand the Hulwan iron and steel plants, plans to expand the aluminimum complex by increasing its size and adding complementary industries, and a plan to add a fourth battery to the coke factory. The Egyptian side expressed understanding about the need to change the accounting price for the pound sterling, which constituted the basis for the trade exchange between the two countries. But there are still differences on setting the final rate for this price, it was noted.

### Saudi Oil Minister Arrives on 2-Day Visit

*NC141059 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Saudi Petroleum Minister Hisham Nazir arrived in Cairo today for a 2-day visit as part of a tour that also will include the Soviet Union and Norway. He was received by 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources.

### Sidqi Meets Oil Minister

*NC141605 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi met with Hisham Nazir, the visiting Saudi petroleum minister, today.

Chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, also attended the session. He said afterward that the Saudi minister presented OPEC's position on limiting the supply of oil on the market to stabilize prices. Qandil added that Egypt's views on this coincided with those outlined by the Saudi official. He also explained that meetings and consultations of this type will continue with the Saudis.

Egypt, Qandil said, supports all of OPEC's decisions limiting oil output. Egypt will continue implementing the production cuts it introduced to stabilize prices. In addition, Qandil mentioned that Egypt welcomes OPEC's attempts to bring stability to the oil market, and is satisfied with the positions taken by such other producers as Norway.

Qandil noted that he expects the international oil market to stabilize in the next 6 months thanks to OPEC's recent decisions. The minister pointed out that Egypt's oil production has fallen from 940,000 barrels a day to 870,000, and that technical considerations made any additional reductions difficult.

Qandil noted that Egypt's pricing committee will meet tomorrow to determine prices for February. These are expected to be higher in accordance with conditions on the world market, which are bound to improve as a result of OPEC's recent decisions.

### Oil Ministers Hold Talks

*NC141630 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1553 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Official talks between chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, and Hisham Nazir, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral resources, began at the Ministry of Petroleum this afternoon. The two ministers initially met in closed session for approximately an hour, after which they were joined by members of the two delegations.

MENA has learned that the meeting involved a comprehensive review of the present oil market and the role that non-OPEC countries can play in achieving stability and implementing the OPEC decisions adopted last December, the aim of which is to increase the price of a barrel of crude oil to $18. The two delegations also discussed a number of principles that will strengthen the oil-exporting countries inside and outside OPEC and maintain the process of social and economic development, despite production cuts.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil said the success of the recent OPEC decisions and the organization's agreement to reduce production and set the price of oil at $18 a barrel as of 1 February resulted from the decisive stand and wise policy adopted by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. These had made an effective contribution to the stability and price improvement currently witnessed in the market.

### Mubarak Meets Saudi Minister

*NC150817 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0807 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazir in Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. Also at the meeting were Chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, and As'ad Abu al-Nasr, head of the Saudi Interests Office in Cairo. The Saudi minister arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 2-day visit.

### AL-AKHBAR Welcomes Visit

*NC150517 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — *Al-Akhbar* has welcomed the visit to Egypt by Saudi Oil Minister Hisham al-Nazir, as an OPEC representative. In a commentary in its Thursday issue, the paper says that this visit comes in response to Egypt's support for OPEC's efforts to stabilize oil prices in the world markets for the benefit of all. This support was exemplified by Egypt's cut in production, in line with the OPEC agreement. [passage omitted]

The paper also welcomes the Saudi oil minister's visit to Cairo because it is designed to strengthen relations between the two countries, which have never been broken in recent years, "in an official manner."

The paper expresses the hope that this visit will contribute to the advancement of these ties for the benefit of the two peoples and the Arab naion as a whole, following a long period of fragmentation leading to the tragedies and catastrophes that the Arab nation is now experiencing.

### FRG Economic Delegation Arrives 14 Jan

*NC141554 Cairo MENA in English 1530 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, Jan 14 (MENA) — An economic delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany arrived today on a week-long visit to Egypt for talks with officials here on the feasibility of promoting economic and industrial cooperation between Egypt and the FRG in the various domains especially food security ones.

The delegation will also meet with Egyptian businessmen to exchange economic and technical know-how in the field of setting up joint Egypto-German ventures. The delegation will also participate in implementing a number of projects in the governorates, especially in Ismailia.

### Japanese Deputy Finance Minister Arrives 14 Jan

*NC150500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Japanese Deputy Finance Minister Takao Fujii arrived in Cairo tonight on a visit to Egypt expected to last several days. The Japanese official stated on arrival that his visit to Cairo comes within the framework of the cordial and excellent relations between the two countries. He said that during his visit he will meet with Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, and Eng Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, to discuss ways of strengthening bilateral relations.

### Kuwaiti Delegation Leaves Cairo 13 Jan

*NC131454 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1408 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA) — The delegation of Kuwaiti businessmen headed by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Saqr, chairman of the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry, left Cairo this afternoon at the conclusion of a 6-day stay in Egypt. During this visit, the delegation was received by President Husni Mubarak. The Kuwaiti businessmen were seen off by 'Izzat Ghaydan, chairman of the Union of Chambers of Commerce.

### Syria Asks ICO To Examine Egypt's Membership

*NC142248 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — In its Thursday edition, *Al-Ahram* reports that Syria has officially requested that an additional topic be included on the provisional agenda of the Islamic summit conference; that is, the illegitimacy of Egypt's return to the ICO.

According to the paper, official sources have affirmed that Egypt will do its utmost to dismiss all attempts at one-upmanship and bickering during the conference.

It is worth noting that the Egyptian delegation to the ICO ministerial conference will leave for Kuwait on 20 January. It will be headed by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

### 2d Batch of Mirage 2000 Aircraft Arrives

*NC150514 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — *Al-Ahram* has reported that the second batch of Mirage 2000 aircraft arrived at an Egyptian air base at noon today, in accordance with the deal that Egypt concluded with France. The planes had flown directly from France. The paper said in its Thursday issue that Flight Major General Ahmad Nasr, head of the Air Operations branch, was on hand to welcome the aircraft crew. [passage omitted]

### AL-WAFD Claims U.S. Supports Mideast Conference

*PM141545 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 8 Jan 87 p 1,4*

[Jalal 'Abd al-Fattah report: "The United States Agrees to an International Conference"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that the U.S. State Department has formulated a number of new proposals to push the peace process forward, representing a tangible change in the U.S. stand that endured for many years, especially its opposition to any international conference attended by all parties concerned with the Middle East problem. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, during his current tour of the region which began last Tuesday with a visit to Amman, is presenting the U.S. plan to reactivate the peace process, which includes a compromise solution between an international conference and direct negotiations. Murphy, during his visit to Jordan, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and perhaps Syria, will attempt to persuade the parties concerned to hold a preliminary international conference, to be attended by all parties concerned, including the Palestinians and the Security Council's five members, but without going into details. The conference is to end after a date has been set for the subsequent session. During the period between the two meetings, the parties concerned will enter into direct negotiations to discuss the substance and other details. The United States, or the Soviet Union, or the Security Council's members will be able to present their mediations and proposals to promote compromise solutions acceptable to all parties. This means that the international conference's mission will be confined to formal procedures and discussion of what other parties achieve through direct negotiations.

*Al-Wafd* also has learned that there are many reservations about the U.S. proposal, especially regarding the question of Palestinian representation at the conference, but there is agreement in principle by various parties. Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres declared a few days ago that Israel welcomes negotiations

with a Palestinian delegation within the Jordanian delegation, in accordance with the agreement concluded between Jordan and the PLO on 11 February 1985, provided that the Palestinian delegation does not include any PLO members. Peres also confirmed the need to establish full diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union, before Soviet participation in the conference. This has been the aim of the two countries' secret talks from the middle of last November up to the present. One condition is that the Soviets should allow more Jewish emigration, in return for Soviet participation in the international conference. These U.S. maneuvers are meant to overcome the effects of the scandal of the arms supplies to Iran.

## Security Forces Foil Plot by Extremists

*NC151001 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Jan p 1 87*

[Text] Cairo — *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* has learned that Egyptian security organizations recently foiled an attempt by some extremist groups in the Al-Minya Governorate to provoke sectarian strife in the district after one of the extremist groups printed publications assailing Pope Shinudah and inciting its members to demonstrate against him.

Members of these groups attempted to stage a demonstration in the city of Al-Minya on 7 January, gathering in one of the suburbs. Security forces immediately dispersed the demonstrators and arrested members of the extremist group leading the protest.

Meanwhile, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* has learned that the meeting between Egyptian Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr with the governorates' security officials prior to his departure for Iraq and information available to the public security forces exposed a plan by the extremist groups to provoke sectarian strife in Egypt similar to events in Al-Zawiyah al-Hamra' in Cairo in 1980.

The interior minister issued instructions to the security officials to confront any attempts of this kind and requested that the ruling NDP Secretariat draw up a political plan aimed at alerting party leaders to such attempts.

## Reports, Communiques on Current Fighting

### 'Large Number' of Iranian POW's

*JN141102 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Diyala, 14 Jan (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces in the II Army Corps central sector managed to capture a very large number of the Iranian forces during their abortive attack last night. An INA correspondent reported from the II Army Corps sector today that the large number of Iranian POW's captured by the Iraqi Armed Forces are being evacuated to the rear. The correspondent added that the Iranian POW's were in a pitiful state and showed signs of complete collapse, fear, and devastated morale.

### Iranian Claim 'Ridiculed'

*JN141120 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jan (INA) — Iraq has ridiculed Iranian allegations that they occupied certain heights in the recent Iranian offensive on II Army Corps central sector last night. An Iraqi military spokesman told INA today that the Iranians lost thousands of dead and hundreds of prisoners without occupying one inch of Iraq's territory. An Iraqi military communique was issued today confirming the defeat and destruction of the Iranian offensive in the central sector.

### Penetrated Position 'Purged'

*JN141157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jan (INA) — Iraqi military spokesman said a short while ago that the Iranian forces, which only managed to penetrate a company position in the direction of the Abu 'Ubaydah outpost in the II Army Corps sector, have been captured with the exception of those who were killed by Iraqi fire.

In a statement to INA today, the spokesman said that Iraq's territory in that company's position was purged and that the situation has completely settled in our favor. The spokesman said: Thus, the Iranian forces have suffered the disgraceful defeat they deserve in that sector.

### Iranian 'Footholds' Hit

*JN141511 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Basra/Southern Iraq, 14 Jan (INA) — The Iraqi units in the III Army Corps sector have continued their advance to liberate and destroy the footholds which the Iranian forces desecrated in the east of Al-Basrah sector. Yesterday and on the night of 12 January, the Iraqi forces purged a number of positions of the aggressors' filth. Meanwhile, our forces repulsed two desperate enemy attempts to regain some liberated positions early this morning, killed thousands of the enemy, and destroyed their weapons and armor.

The INA team said that Iraqi units, supported by artillery, mortars, and rocket launchers, are continuing operations to purge the territory of the filth of the Iranian regime's forces. The INA team saw scores of fighter planes and helicopter gunships pouring lava on the Iranian forces in the battlefield and behind enemy lines, as well as columns of smoke billowing from the enemy side.

The INA team quoted senior Air Force and Army aviation officers as saying that fighter planes and helicopter gunships have carried out hundreds of combat missions and sorties since last night and up to 1400 today. The senior officers said that the enemy forces, which have not achieved any significant gain following the destruction inflicted on them, are in a state of complete collapse. Meanwhile, the Iraqi fighters' enthusiasm and morale are on the rise as they liberate new positions from the aggressors' profanation.

In accordance with developments in military operations, the Iraqi units' high preparedness, and the size and quality of weapons, the INA team affirmed that the result of the battle in terms of the size of the Iranian forces' losses in personnel, armor, weapons, and equipment will be a military, psychological, economic, and social catastrophe for the Iranian regime.

### Communique No 2,527

*JN141849 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1710 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Communique No 2,527 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to God day and night for our victory; praise be to God who supports truth and destroys falsehood; praise be to God who gave us a leader who teaches us wisdom, gives us courage, and leads our ranks on the path of loftiness and freedom to safeguard the homeland and the people's achievements; and praise be to God who grants us victory on this blessed day and for what our II Army Corps' brave fighters have offered. God, you bestowed your graces upon us. Give us more. It is best that you bestow graces.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. In the Armed Forces General Command's Communique No 2,526 issued this morning on the victories of our Armed Forces in the II Army Corps sector, we said the enemy was only able to penentrate the position of one company at the Abu 'Ubaydah outpost. We heard later from the II Army Corps Headquarters that the enemy forces in this position were captured, except those who were killed by the fierce Iraqi firepower at the company position. The situation is finally settled in our favor. Thus, the enemy has suffered the disgraceful defeat it deserves in this sector. Blessed be the heroic II Army Corps fighters — commanders, officers, and men. Praise be to God for this great victory.

2. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, the enemy tried last night and this morning to intercept our units in an abortive attempt to regain the footholds which were purged

southeast of Al-Asmak Lake. Our brave units confronted the enemy with strong artillery, armor, and infantry weapons, defeating it and inflicting more heavy losses on its troops.

Our units also pursued enemy infiltrators, destroying many of them while the rest escaped. Our forces are tightening their stranglehold on enemy units, imposing complete control over the area of operations and implementing through their efficient performance and heroic fighting the prepared plan to purge what is left of the dear homeland's territory.

3. Our heroic Air Force has continued its actions against the enemy's defeated and collapsed remnants in the heroic III Army Corps sector. Early this morning, our planes pounced on enemy positions, concentrations, and vehicles in the battlefield and along the supply lines. They also destroyed a number of enemy armor and artillery in 363 combat missions. They also achieved the following:

a. During their successful raids our planes destroyed approximately 248 vehicles loaded with personnel and supplies.

b. At 0943 today our daring planes dealt a destructive blow to a Hawk surface-to-surface missile battery which the Zionist entity gave its agents in Iran, thus challenging the enemy's antiaircraft defenses. Our planes then returned safely to their bases except one plane which fell in enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for safeguarding the life of its pilot.

4. The scoundrel Khomeyniites should not have directed the arrows of deception, cruelty, cheap ambition, and dark grudgery at lofty Iraq. In Iraq there is a great people who know how to color the ground with aggressors' blood and how to punish the criminal and evil aggressors. In retaliation for the Khomeyniite clique's crimes of shelling Baghdad, Basra, and (Taslujah) with the missiles of traitors, at 1555 today 16 devastating planes attacked the city of Ilam, turning it into ruins.

Also at the same time scores of our planes were flying over the city of Qom, dropping their lethal bombs on the heads of charlatans, turning their selected targets into burned junk. Our planes then returned safely. Praise be to God. Have we not said we will turn their cities into ruins? This is Iraq's deed and promise. The freeman's promise is his bond. O brave Iraqi pilot, this is the way to treat the enemy.

5. The daring Army aviation force is continuing its heroic operations to destroy the aggressors' remnants, thus playing a great role with other Armed Forces formations in defending Iraq's chaste territory. As of this statement, the brave helicopter knights carried out 283 combat sorties in which they pounced on enemy armor, vehicles, boats, weapons, ammunition dumps, and concentrations, inflicting heavy losses on the scoundrel Khomeyniites. Blessed be the Army aviation forces and its valiant men.

6. At 1630 an enemy plane attempted to violate our international border in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. Our antiaircraft defenses' men confronted the plane and shot it down. It was seen falling ablaze in enemy territory and its pilot was seen parachuting.

7. At 1230 today the enemy fired one of its missiles which was given them by the scoundrels who are Arabs in name only. The missile fell in a residential area of Baghdad. This led to the martyring of a number of civilians, the wounding of others, and the damaging of some houses and shops.

The criminal enemy also shelled brave, steadfast Basra with long-range artillery. This led to the martyring of 6 civilians, including 2 children and 1 woman, and the wounding of 16 civilians, including 3 women and 5 children. At 0730 today, two enemy planes raided the (Taslujah) area, wounding five citizens, including one child. Mercy to our martyrs and quick recovery to our wounded, God willing. The scoundrel Khomeyniites will receive punishment for their deeds. Iraqis do not accept any insult or remain silent to Injustice.

### Missiles Hit Iranian Cities

*JN142106 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2039 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 14 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This is an immortal day in the history of this great people — a day which expresses this homeland's pride and spirit of challenge to anybody who attempts to encroach on its territory, security, and safety.

When we reminded the criminal Iranian rulers in the name of the people and through our leader that if any bomb is directed at Basra we would wipe out complete cities, we were not under any illusions. We are not the kind of people who speak rashly. Every word we say has a meaning and expresses a strong will, relentless determination, and unlimited capabilities.

As the Iranian rulers continue to shell Basra, Baghdad, and other Iraqi cities, we prove to them and affirm to their allies today the meaning of Iraq's patience and the Iraqis' wisdom. Today we prove to them that we are capable of destroying them, that our promise is that of honest men, and that our deed cannot be confronted by them.

At 2230 today our devastating missiles pounced on the following cities: Kermanshah [Bakhtaran], Borujerd, Masjed-e-Soleyman, and Dezful. Have the Khomeyniites understood the meaning of Iraq's warnings? If they have not, we still have more in store which will make them understand at last.

### More Iranian Cities Raided

*JN142137 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 14 January]

[Text] While days of victory pass in battles of honor and dignity, we continue to inflict a harsh, ruthless, and challenging punishment on those who deviated from the right path, who were pushed by Zionism to do wrong, and who thought they were immune to Iraq's punishment. Today and everyday they should realize they

are dwarfed by the current of freedom and progress which emerges from this genuine homeland.

As part of our legitimate effort to take revenge for every drop of pure Iraqi blood shed by the brutal shelling of our peaceful areas and to defend our citizens' lives, properties, and prosperity, our Air Force carried out the following missions in addition to what was mentioned in Communique No 2,527 issued this evening:

1. At 1522 today, our aircraft carried out a destructive raid on the city of Gilan-e Gharb, destroying their targets.

2. At 2220 today, our aircraft carried out a destructive strike on the city of Dezful, hitting their targets.

3. At the same time a number of our aircraft carried out a devastating attack on the city of Qom.

4. At 2220, our aircraft carried out a violent raid on the city of Esfahan, destroying their targets.

After carrying out these missions, our planes returned safely to the homeland. Thanks to God. Glory to the eager hawks, the pride of Iraq and the asset of the nation.

### New Areas 'Liberated'

*JN150800 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military official has affirmed that disintegration and collapse have set in in what is left of the aggressors Iranian forces east of Al-Basrah. In a statement to Baghdad radio, 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, director of political guidance at the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, said that the Iraqi forces pursued the enemy and liberated new areas southeast of the Al-Asmak Lake. He affirmed that the Iranian Forces sustained large numbers of dead and wounded during their abortive attempts. The enemy losses were caused by the incessant artillery and missile barrages, as well as the air raids on the enemy transport and supply lines.

### Central Sector Attack Foiled

*JN150832 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0811 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jan (JNA) — An Iraqi military field commander has said that an Iranian offensive against a number of Iraqi positions of the Dhulfaqar Forces in the II Army Corps sector was crushed last night. He said that the situation has been finally settled in favor of the Iraqi Forces.

In a statement to an INA correspondent in this sector, the commander said that the Iranian force threw in four regiments at 0230 today [2330 GMT on 14 January] in an abortive attempt to attack the forward Iraqi positions. He affirmed that the attacking Iranian force was crushed after failing to reach even the forward Iraqi barriers. He added that the corpses of Iranian soldiers were left on the battlefield and that the Iraqi forces evacuated another number of Iranian POW's to the rear.

### More on Attack

*JN150959 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0915 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 15 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. How disappointed will the regime of charlatans be when it gathers all of its ambitions, rancor, and the remnants of its forces in an attempt to desecrate lofty Iraq's soil or encroach on its sovereignty. How miserable will the gangs of tyranny, the agents of Zionism, be when they try their stumbling luck in facing the valiant, glorious Iraqi soldiers, fearlessly and bravely defending their land, homes, and honor.

At 0230 today [2330 GMT 14 January], the tyrant gang in Tehran threw in groups of its forces, estimated at two brigades, in an abortive attempt to reach our positions in the heroic II Army Corps sector. Our valiant formations from the valiant Dhulfaqar Forces confronted them and immediately annihilated all these groups even before they reached our forward barriers. The enemy could not maintain a foothold on a single inch of our land but sustained hundreds of dead and wounded and the remaining few fled. The situation has been completely settled in favor of our victorious forces.

The battles of the heroic II Army Corps over the past 2 days confirm Iraq's decisive victory in all the fateful battles and embodies on the ground our final and devastating victory over the aggressors. Proceed to further glory and pride O heroic Dhulfaqar Forces, commanders, officers, and other ranks, and to all our brave fighters in the heroic II Army Corps.

### Missile Battery, Bridges Hit

*JN151012 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 15 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defiance of the enemy's air defenses in particular, our heroic Air Force planes at 0740 today launched a destructive raid on a surface-to-air Hawk missile battery supplied by the Zionist entity to its allies in Iran. At 0812 today, our planes launched a destructive raid on the enemy's military bridges in Mohammerah [Khorramshahr] and managed to destroy them. After carrying out these two missions, our planes returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

### More Targets Hit

*JN151222 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1155 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 15 January]]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Since first light this morning, our Air Force have been delivering the most punishing blows to the defeated enemy concentrations, positions, and movements of enemy equipment along the

transport routes and on the battlefield. As of this statement our hawks have carried out 108 combat missions. They also pounced with their missiles on the following targets and managed to damage them:

1. At 1151 today, our planes delivered a destructive blow to the (Tallat Zenk) bridge.

2. At 1153, our planes delivered a destructive blow to the (Kushwar) bridges.

3. At 1220, our planes delivered a destructive blow to the Haft Tappeh station. [not further identified]

4. During their raids, our planes managed to destroy 129 various enemy vehicles.

After carrying out all these missions, our planes returned safely to the homeland, praise be to God.

**Esfahan, Tabriz Raided**

*JN151435 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1410 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 15 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 1446 today, planes of our mighty Air Force launched a destructive raid on Esfahan. At 1521, they launched a destructive raid on Tabriz. This was done to follow up the decision of the great Iraqi people to punish the criminals who have shelled and continue to shell residential areas in Baghdad and the steadfast and valiant city of Basra. Furthermore, it was intended to inflict further losses on the aggressors, losses that compel them to desist from their aggression. Our aircraft pounded their targets in Esfahan and Tabriz with the force of right and in revenge for the loss of pure Iraqi blood.

After carrying out their mission and on their return, our aircraft sighted an enemy F-14 aircraft and downed it inside enemy territory. Our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God. May God protect you O hawks of the skies. Forward toward further victories that will compel our enemy to respond to the call of right and peace.

**Iranian 'Foothold' Denied**

*JN151451 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that the Iranian regime's forces have gained a foothold in the central sector of the area of operations. In a statement to INA a short while ago, the Iraqi spokesman also denied that a battle was waged in the Kawr 'Abdallah area, in southern Iraq, between the Iraqi naval force and Iranian boats. The spokesman described these claims as ridiculous heresy to cover up the thousands of Iranians killed. The spokesman affirmed that the Iranian side has not gained one inch after all these losses.

**Two Iranian Attacks 'Smashed'**

*JN151510 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Basra/Southern Iraq, 15 Jan (INA) — The Iraqi III Army Corps forces smashed two attempts by the Iranian forces last night to intercept a foothold purged by the Iraqi forces to the east of Al-Basrah. The INA team said today that the Iraqi forces are in control of the situation in their fortified strongholds after repulsing the two abortive Iranian attempts and smashing their weapons and equipment.

The INA team added that the III Army Corps forces continued their pressure to surround and destroy the Iranian forces as well as mop up more positions. The INA team noted that Iraqi fighters and helicopter gunships have dealt devastating blows to the Iranian forces, armor, and equipment in hundreds of combat missions.

## LE MONDE: King Husayn Interviewed on French Visit

*PM141146 Paris LE MONDE in French 13 Jan 86 p 1, 4*

[Interview with King Husayn by Andre Fontaine; date, place not given]

[Text][Fontaine] Your Majesty, this is not exactly your first visit to our country, but it is your first state visit since the election of the current president, that is, for 6 years. What do you expect to talk about?

[Husayn] Everything, as is customary with very close friends, and, of course, first and foremost, the Arab-Israeli problem and our constant efforts to reach a comprehensive solution. We will also review all the Middle East issues, as well as international relations as a whole. I am very proud that we maintain close contact with France and greatly esteem its activity for a just peace settlement.

[Fontaine] Since you have been king you have hardly paused in your quest for a solution to the Palestinian problem. On the whole, people are very pessimistic in this regard. Do you believe that the chances of achieving it have improved?

[Husayn] I believe — in fact I know — that there is a chance. It stems from the spreading realization that unless something is done soon we will find ourselves in a psychological situation in which everything will appear to be lost. The entire region will then plunge into a deep abyss, and an explosion will be hard to avert.

[Fontaine] Do you perceive a change in the two superpowers' attitudes toward the region, since there is not much hope for a lasting settlement without their cooperation?

[Husayn] I truly believe the only way out is to reach a comprehensive settlement under the auspices of the five permanent Security Council members and with the participation of all those involved in the problem, which, naturally, includes the Palestinians. I believe this approach is very close to France's. It is necessary right away to encourage dialogue between the permanent Security Council members to lay the groundwork for the peace conference.

[Fontaine] Do you believe the Soviets could be better disposed toward such an endeavor now?

[Husayn] Yes, I believe so.

[Fontaine] Do you attach any importance to the cease-fire announced in Kabul or do you believe it is merely a trap?

[Husayn] I believe this move must be examined closely. It is definitely a positive step. To return to our region's more immediate problems, taking account of their ramifications and their impact on the general state of the world, I truly feel the time has come to make the maximum effort to reach a negotiated settlement. Why have we suggested a meeting between the sides involved and the five permanent Security Council members? For the good reason that such a settlement can obviously be based only on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. It must be guaranteed by the Council and must deal with all aspects of the Palestinian issue.

Some elements exist and it must all be brought together, avoiding any polarization around the superpowers. Some suggestions were made recently concerning the convocation of a preparatory meeting, and I believe that the dialogue between the superpowers should contribute to this.

[Fontaine] Do you believe that the weakening of President Reagan's personal position diminishes the U.S. capacity for action in the region?

[Husayn] The United States certainly has suffered major harm. It has two problems: One is domestic and concerns the Americans alone. The other has clearly affected its credibility. Should we simply accept this or hope that something honest and sincere can be done to repair the damage?

[Fontaine] You naturally included the Palestinians among those who should take part in negotiations for an Israeli-Arab settlement. Which Palestinians do you mean?

[Husayn] We always have considered the PLO the Palestinian people's legitimate representative.

[Fontaine] Do you still retain that viewpoint?

[Husayn] We do, and we very much hope the PLO will be able to reflect the Palestinian people's hopes, aspirations, and feelings. The obstacles will not come from our side if the principal features of a settlement can be established.

[Fontaine] Nevertheless, you broke away from Yasir 'Arafat a year ago....

[Husayn] Yes. Our coordination on the political plane has come to an end. This does not rule out the possibility the PLO may feel something can be done, that a situation may come about whereby it can adequately represent the Palestinian people.

[Fontaine] Jordan recently embarked on a major investment effort in the occupied territories. What do expect from this?

[Husayn] We have been carrying out actions of this kind for a long time — since 1968, in fact. But it is true that we have recently stepped them up. We believe it is necessary as far as possible to encourage the inhabitants to remain where they are and to meet their essential needs. We have a 5-year plan to this end. We intend to do our utmost with regard to education, health, services.... We feel it is our duty to remain very close to them. It is one way of helping them retain their confidence in the possibility of a settlement.

[Fontaine] Do you believe the Israeli Government can make much progress on the road to peace, in view of the strange coalition on which it is based?

[Husayn] I do not believe I am going too far when I say that the fact that the two principal parties are associated in government has reassured the Israeli people to some extent. We have seen no radical change of approach since the change of prime minister. Of course, the question of the Jewish colonies in the occupied territories is of great concern to us. A return to this trend would constitute a major obstacle on the road to a settlement. But, I repeat, we have seen no major sign of change thus far.

[Fontaine] Let us move onto the Iraq-Iran war.... It seems to me that it is one of your chief concerns. You cannot be very pleased about U.S. arms supplies to Tehran via Israel.

[Husayn] We were profoundly shocked, profoundly disturbed by this affair.

[Fontaine] Do you have any idea what prompted the United States to take this course?

[Husayn] No, I have no explanation. What I can say is that what was done totally contradicts what the Americans have always told us and what they had just reaffirmed to us.

[Fontaine] Do you believe their basic aim was to recover the hostages?

[Husayn] No, the price truly was too high, because it involved supplying weapons to a country involved in a conflict and that has rejected all efforts by the world community to open peace negotiations. The sole result of these supplies is to increase the threat of a continuation of a war that already has caused huge losses in human life and increased instability in the region.

[Fontaine] According to some cynics the war has become to some extent an element in the regional status quo and could therefore last a long time.

[Husayn] It could last some time but Iran must realize that it will end some day and that the only conceivable kind of peace is one based on each side's noninterference in the other's affairs. As far as the border issue is concerned, history provides a wealth of factors that should help resolve it.

[Fontaine] But do you believe there is any chance that the people currently in power in Iran could accept such a settlement?

[Husayn] If they are encouraged by arms suppliers, clearly not.

[Fontaine] Let us talk about Lebanon. How do you see things evolving?

[Husayn] We see no immediate solution there either. The fact is that, as in the Iran-Iraq war, the world has become accustomed to an entirely intolerable situation. Nevertheless, I very firmly believe the quest for a solution to the Lebanese problem would be facilitated by a comprehensive accord on the Middle East.

[Fontaine] Do you believe such a solution could come from the Lebanese themselves or that they must be constrained in some way?

[Husayn] The Lebanese must be persuaded to sit down at the same table and consider their future jointly.

[Fontaine] Who can persuade them?

[Husayn] Many people who are actually foreigners in Lebanon are involved in the conflict. Incidentally, there is a link between the Iran-Iraq war and Lebanon. We see new danger in the emergence of a split between the Sunnis and the Shi'ites in the Muslim world. The result will be catastrophic is this occurs. Thank God, Iraq has managed to keep this threat at bay.

[Fontaine] The fundamentalist current is not confined to the Shi'ites. We see it in the Maghreb, too, and even in France.

[Husayn] Well, our hope is that the real Muslims will prevail: What we are seeing here and there in this part of the world is so alien to the progressive nature of Islam, to its real message. If Islam were to split in two in this region the effect would be truly disastrous.

[Fontaine] Do you believe in the possibility of a reaction in the Arab world against this evolution?

[Husayn] Of course, because, I repeat, this is not the message of Islam.

[Fontaine] Will this subject be broached at the Kuwait Islamic summit on 26 January?

[Husayn] It will certainly be discussed. I hope this will be done effectively.

### AL-MAJALLAH: Al-Masri on Mideast Talks, W. Bank

*PM131611 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 31 Dec-6 Jan 87 pp 14-15*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri by Nadim Nasir in Amman; date not given]

[Text] [Nasir] Peace efforts have been frozen for some time, but the freeze has intensified recently for several reasons, one being the crisis in the U.S. Administration over weapons shipments to Iran and the ramifications and consequences of that issue, which could yet topple more influential elements in the U.S. Administration. In your opinion, to what degree will this crisis freeze U.S. interest in Middle East peace efforts?

[Al-Masri] Efforts to achieve a peaceful solution and to hold the international conference have faltered for a time owing to numerous causes and factors connected with Arab and international parties, not just one party. With U.S. arms dealings with Iran exposed, and considering the consequences of these developments for the United States, it has become obvious even to the ordinary observer that U.S. credibility has suffered, not just in the Arab area but in many parts of the world. It has become similarly

obvious that the U.S. Administration's preoccupation with the complications and ramifications of supplying Iran with weapons will prevent it from trying to push the peace process forward and from making efforts to bring the disputing parties' viewpoints closer together.

It is no secret that we believed in the past that the United States is a very important party to the efforts to reach a peaceful solution in the area because of its firm relations and alliance with Israel and its ability to influence the Israeli political line, and because of its strong relations with numerous Arab countries and its vast interests in the Arab area. But, because U.S. credibility has been shaken in this manner and the U.S. Administration has failed to find time to devote to developing solutions to the Middle East problem, it is logical for us to conclude that there will be no new U.S. peace initiatives or enhancement of the peace process. However, I do not wish to speculate on how long the freeze in the peace process will last. It could last through President Reagan's second term, which concludes at the end of 1988. But President Reagan could, for example, try to find a way out of the dilemma into which his administration has fallen by turning to the world and embarking on a daring Middle East initiative. I personally find this possibility unlikely. However, it is still a door which President Reagan can open in the coming weeks or months to regain some of his administration's credibility.

**Doubtful Credibility**

[Nasir] In Jordan's opinion, to what degree has this credibility been distorted?

[Al-Masri] The Arab public's view of U.S. political objectives is well known. It constantly casts doubts upon the U.S. Administration's intentions. As a result, the Arab states known in Western parlance as "moderate" are under constant pressure from their public because they agree to deal with the United States. Doubting U.S. credibility is nothing new. This doubt has built up gradually over years and has taken hold in Arab hearts because of pro-Israeli U.S. positions. This is why few people were surprised by the latest U.S. actions vis-a-vis the Gulf war. But this is, undoubtedly, another link to add to the old elements of doubt over U.S. credibility.

[Nasir] Jordan considered the U.S. supply of weapons to Iran a retreat from U.S. neutrality in the Gulf war, and numerous Arab parties considered the U.S. conduct an open act of hostility toward the Arabs. Jordan has openly supported Iraq since the beginning of the Gulf war. Can you give us more details on Jordan's position on U.S. military aid to Iran?

[Al-Masri] Jordan's position on this issue emanates from its comprehensive view of the Iraq-Iran war and from the ceaseless U.S. assertions that the United States is committed to neutrality in that war. We in Jordan cannot comprehend how a certain state can advance moral or material aid to Iran, which declares daily and without any shame or timidity its aspirations and ambitions beyond its borders. Nor can we comprehend how a certain state advances aid to Iran, which insists on continuing the war when the entire world knows that Iraq wants to put an end to it and sit down at the negotiation table to reach an understanding that preserves the two countries' rights and interests. This is why we cannot comprehend why some states aid Iran, unless they are ill-willed; namelt, that they want the two countries to continue to fight and shed Muslim and Arab blood and want human and material resources, not just in the two countries but in numerous other countries, to be drained. The first state thatcomes to my mind in this connection is, of course, Israel, which has a big interest in the continuation of that war.

**No Alternative to PLO**

[Nasir] A reason for the frozen peace efforts is the Israeli positions and Yitzhaq Shamir's rejection of an international peace conference. Considering that Jordan utterly rejects Israel's call for direct negotiatons, does this mean the situation has become hopeless?

[Al-Masri] I do not wish to commit myself to the word "hopeless." But I can affirm Jordan has firm positions built on profound convictions and studies and on an understanding of the real situation, the area's structures, the succession of events, and the depth and influence of the Palestinian issue. We have built our positions in light of all of this. One of our positions, from which we really cannot deviate, is that we need to hold an international conference; we reject direct negotiations. We cannot change this position even if Shamir's government continues to call for direct negotiations for the next 10 years. We believe that, if the United States wants to move peace forward, an international conference must be held for the purpose.

[Nasir] One of the reasons Israel rejects the international conference idea is that it does not want to deal with the PLO. Israel accuses the PLO of being a "terrorist" organization and alleges that if the PLO takes part in the international conference it will cause it to collapse from within and that, consequently, there is no need for such a conference. Since the Jordanian monarch ended political coordination between Jordan and the PLO leadership last February, it is now rumored that, in an attempt to overcome Israeli opposition to an international conference, Jordan is trying to form an alternative liberation front within a different framework and under a different leadership. What is your response to this rumor?

[Al-Masri] Jordan has at no time sought this objective. Relations between Jordan and the West Bank Palestinians are more than warm. They are unionist relations. You also know that a large percentage of Jordan's population — nearly 60 to 70 percent — consists of Palestinians. Depite this, Jordan has at no time considered creating a Palestinian organization under its control or interfering in the Palestinians' or PLO's affairs. Whatever is said about Jordanian moves or actions in this direction is far from the truth. If Jordan had such a plan, it would have been able to implement it successfully.

**Timing of Development Plan**

[Nasir] This issue of competition between Jordan and the PLO to win the hearts of the occupied territories' residents leads us to the Jordanian development plan for the occupied territories and to the numerous doubts and interpretations this plan evokes. No two persons disagree on the extreme importance of this plan in reviving the occupied territories' economy and helping their population to stand fast. But the question must be asked:

Why has Jordan chosen this particular time to present its mammoth plan? Why did Jordan not present it 5 years ago, for example, or before Jordanian coordination with the PLO was terminated?

[Al-Masri] It is inaccurate to say that Jordan did not previously consider this plan. It is well known that Jordan was tied to the West Bank by unionist relations prior to 1967. These relations have continued as far as the occupation circumstances have permitted. In the past there were certain views on how to deal with the West Bank. Regardless of whether those views were successful or criticized, the fact remains that people considered the matter and decided that those were the best means to deal with the West Bank. What I like to call a "new view" has now emerged. It calls for putting a plan on paper, with a beginning and an end, and within a certain framework and defined objectives.

The main factor prompting the Jordanian Government to initiate and develop this view, so it may be cast into a plan, is the political circumstances of the area, in both the West Bank itself and in the Arab areas. We believe the Israeli settlement of, and Israeli ambitions in, the occupied territories are clear beyond a shadow of a doubt. We have found that we cannot wait. As some people circulate reports that the goal of the camps war in Lebanon is to evict the Palestinians from Lebanon and to push them into Jordan as part of a scheme to set up an alternative homeland, and that this malicious scheme must be fought, then we must fight with greater force the eviction of Palestinians from the West Bank.

[Nasir] An incidental question, Mr Minister: Do you have any evidence that the camps war is part of the scheme for an alternative Palestinian homeland?

[Al-Masri] I said that these are reports circulated by some people. But the reports are based on an analysis of the situation and drawing certain conclusions. Ask yourself: Why are these massacres perpetrated against the inhabitants of the camps in Lebanon every 6 months?

[Nasir] Let us return to Israel's plans to evict the Palestinians from the occupied territories and push them into Jordan.

[Al-Masri] We know that Israel will face a population problem by the year 2005. In that year, the number of Arabs in Palestine will equal the number of Jews — as confirmed by actual Israeli figures. Israel will not be able to stand idle in the face of this problem, which will pose a threat to its entity, and it will not wait until the last moment for solutions. This is why it is planning as of now to eliminate this problem by expelling the Arab population.

We, as Jordanians or Arabs, have not yet reached the Israeli planning level. What we always do is react to what others do. Let us begin, for the first time, to plan for the future and to keep the occupied territories' inhabitants on their land, even if this means risking explanations and interpretations. We have priorities, and they do not concern Jordan alone. They must be the priorities of all Arabs, led by the PLO. These priorities are to keep the Palestinians on their land. Palestinians living on their land are the ones who will keep the land Palestinian. Regardless of the differing political assessments, we must not lose track of this objective or disagree on it. In the absence of Arab solidarity and a unified Arab strategy on a solution, we, in Jordan, find it our duty toward our kinsmen in the occupied territories to move to keep them on their land. I am fully aware that the PLO is not against the principle of development. But the political factor makes the PLO take a stance of opposition. This is why I repeat my call for putting aside political differences and working to keep the Palestinian inhabitants on their land.

[Nasir] You referred in your previous answers to the risks of interpretations and explanations connected with the objectives of the Jordanian development plan for the occupied territories. These interpretations have already materialized, especially in the Western press, which receives its information from Israel. It is said, for example, that the scale of the 5-year plan for the occupied territories requires a degree of coordination with Israeli authorities. Some people, especially in Israel, have gone so far as to say that the plan will result in some sort of joint administration in which Jordan takes charge of economic, administrative, and social aspects and Israel continues to control security aspects; that Israel will benefit greatly from this plan; and that the occupation will go on forever. These interpretations come from Israeli, Western, and Palestinian sources...

[Al-Masri] And Jordanian sources also.

[Nasir] The important thing is: Do you believe these interpretations — and let us put aside the question of securing the funds for this plan, as that is not within your jurisdiction — will affect Jordan's determination to implement the plan?

[Al-Masri] If you backtrack a little and observe the Palestinian issue since 1948, you will find we said at that time that the reason for the loss of Palestine was the lack of coordination between the Arab countries and the absence of true Arab solidarity. Nearly 40 years later, we are still talking about solidarity and unity. After mountains of statements and reports throughout this long period, we find ourselves as far as possible from Arab solidarity and we find the Palestinian cause retreating steadily.

It is as if doubts have become the main or influential factor in steering our daily and political life. It is normal for Israel to try to take advantage of our every step, be it positive or negative. If we refuse to negotiate, Israel tells the West it is threatened; if the Arabs want to negotiate, Israel tries to pit us against each other. Israel lives on nothing but Arab division. As I have already noted, we have our definite priorities; namely, to keep the occupied territories' Palestinians on their land. If we succeed in this, it does not matter to me how much benefit Israel reaps from the development plan, whether materially or in propaganda. The Arabs — first the Palestinians, then the Jordanians, and then the Arabs behind them — can prevent Israel from taking advantage of the development plan and of other things. It is naive to oppose the plan on the grounds that Jordan and Israel will benefit from it. The money spent by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee in the past went to our kinsmen in the West Bank. Because our kinsmen are under occupation, part of the funds went to the Israeli occupation authorities in the form of taxes or customs fees. It is possible that Israel will benefit from the plan. But we must

consider our priorities first. What is important to me is that my kinsmen and my cause benefit. Anything else is secondary. I do not find it surprising that Israel is the source of these rumors, because they serve its interests in the long run. But what is regrettable is that we Arabs live as if the ghost of conspiracy controlled our every brain cell. This attitude is not connected with Israel alone. Even here, in Jordan, any issue, regardless of how clear, immediately evokes doubts and interpretations on the motives behind it. It is perhaps our fault as media and as governments.

## Arab League Committee Continues Mediation

### Klibi Meets With Al-Jumayyil

*NC141202 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*1015 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] The members of the Arab good offices committee concluded their talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil in B'abda palace at noon today. Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi had this to say afterward:

[Begin recording] [Klibi] The members of the committee, assigned by the Arab League Ministerial Council to mediate between the warring brothers in and around the camps, were honored to meet with President Amin al-Jumayyil today. It was a good opportunity for us to exchange views on this tragic situation in an atmosphere of complete frankness and cordiality. This state of affairs is truly a calamity for Lebanon and its people, who are viewed with such affection by all other Arabs. Their place in the hearts of Arabs and in the hearts of all who appreciate the noble traits of the Lebanese people is well known. In light of this meeting with the president, I hope the committee's scope of work will be broadened to include all circumstances and considerations that must be taken into account when solving this particular problem. We pray that the efforts of fraternal Lebanon and its sisters in the Arab League will come together to reach a radical solution, which must, above all else, focus on the Lebanese issue. This matter concerns one of the peoples we hold most dear and has repercussions on the Palestinian problem and on conditions in the region as a whole.

[Correspondent] Mr Secretary Genewral, are you proposing a specific formula for both Amal and the Palestinians that will produce a final cease-fire?

[Klibi] We are working on that very point right now and are preparing three or four relevant measures, which will be presented to the parties concerned for approval. These steps will be announced soon after we seek their approval.

[Correspondent] What sort of atmosphere marked your talks in Damascus?

[Klibi] It was very good, both with the Lebanese [as heard] Government and with such other parties as Brother Nabih Birri.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Klibi] We are ready for any type of consultations.

[Correspondent] Did you sense any desire on Minister Birri's part to lift the siege on Al-Rashidiyah?

[Klibi] We got the impression that Brother Birri would truly like to accept the committee's proposals in full.

[Correspondent] Will the Palestinians withdraw from Maghdushah before then?

[Klibi] That is premature. [end recording]

### Karami on Talks With Committee

*NC141314 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1130 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami after a meeting with the Arab League good offices committee in Beirut on 14 January — recorded]

[Text] [Karami] I have received the members of the Arab committee, who are here on behalf of the Arab League Council. They are on a fact-finding mission and to contribute to any effort designed to stop what is going on in and around the camps. I briefed them on current developments. I also told them that we are in urgent need of a cease-fire and that things must again be as they were before the start of this crisis. Once this has been accomplished, the legitimate authorities will be asked to assume responsibility for security in and around the camps. At that point a meeting will be held to make the arrangements necessary for the establishment of good relations and cooperation between the Palestinians and the Lebanese. This was the focal point of our discussion. We welcome these dear brothers and wish them success in their mission, as Lebanon is exposed to a conspiracy that seeks not only to confuse and divide it, but — on a grander scale — to subjugate the Arab nation and to force it to submit to the Camp David scheme.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, has any outline of a settlement emerged?

[Karami] The open dialogue with these Arab officials will undoubtedly lay out a full picture and chart the path to joint solutions that will put an end to this chronic crisis.

### Klibi Views Beirut Meetings

*NC141513 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1400 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni met with the members of the Arab good offices committee at 1330 today.

Responding to a question afterward on the success of exchanges concerning the presence of Palestinian gunmen in Lebanon, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi declared: We held some very important meetings in Beirut today. I put the committee at the heart of the matter and drew a close link between the camps problem and the Lebanese question in general. I feel that the analyses we heard today in our sessions with President al-Jumayyil, Speaker al-Husayni, and Prime Minister Karami are quite significant. The committee will benefit from them in planning its next moves and will tie them to the very positive discussions we had in Syria.

Klibi added: I believe the members of the committee will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad as soon as they arrive in Damascus. This will allow us to complete our talks with him and hear his views. The committee will then take its first practical steps.

When asked if specific actions within the bounds of his mission had been addressed, Klibi replied: Once our expected meeting

with President Hafiz al-Asad takes place, we will be able to embark on a workable plan for the camps.

Responding to a question on the recent spread of Palestinians, which has wiped out a number of Lebanese villages, and if the Arab League had any ideas for getting residents back to their homes, Klibi said: In addition to the economic situation and the problem of displaced persons, we examined all Lebanese local affairs with Speaker al-Husayni and Prime Minister Karami. I proposed to Prime Minister Karami that we come up with an all-embracing view of these problems and submit it as an integrated document to the Arab League Council.

### Committee Leaves for Damascus

*NC141625 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] The members of the Arab League's Ministerial Committee charged with mediating in the camps war, who arrived in Beirut this morning, have concluded their meetings with President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami, and Speaker al-Husayni. They left for Damascus this afternoon to see Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He will be briefed on the results of their consultations, which began in the Syrian capital yesterday and ended in Beirut today. [passage omitted]

### Amal Movement Supports Iranian Peace Plan

*LD141343 Tehran IRNA in English 1335 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Beirut, Jan. 14, IRNA — Mahmud Faqih, in charge of organisational affairs of the Amal Movement in southern Lebanon, said here Tuesday that the movement stood by its obligations towards the Iranian peace plan to solve the crisis in Lebanon. He further called for greater efforts to implement the plan.

Speaking to IRNA he said that the 'Arafat wing was creating obstacles on the way of implementation of the plan.

He further said that 'Arafat and the reactionary rulers of the region were creating problems and by pushing to defeat the proposal were in fact serving imperialism and Zionism.

The Amal official praised efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran in decreasing tension in Lebanon. Failure to implement the Iranian proposal will leave the people of southern Lebanon under Zionist siege and this will hinder the struggle of Muslims against the Zionist regime, he added.

### Karami, Soviet Ambassador Discuss Mideast Issues

*NC151105 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Vasiliy Kolotusha visited Prime Minister Rashid Karami this morning. The two officials reviewed international issues of concern to the USSR, including developments in the region, the Iranian war, and the camps issue, according to a statement by the Soviet ambassador following the meeting.

### Hubayqah Claims Iraq Arming East Beirut

*NC141804 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] At a news conference in Zahlah today, Elie Hubayqah, Former commander of the Lebanese Forces, said: The leaders of East Beirut and the Iraqi Government concluded an agreement 7 months ago on the supply of weapons. Iraq offered to provide arms and ammunition at no charge if the leaders in the eastern area were willing to share them with the Palestinians or to deliver ammunition to their camps.

As for cooperation between 'Arafat and the Lebanese Forces, Hubayqah noted that the Lebanese Forces and 'Arafat made a deal through Iraqi officials. In response to a question, he explained: They held an interview with 'Arafat, which was broadcast by Lebanese Forces television, for a certain sum of money. He added that 400 Palestinians were deployed through the port of Juniyah to a number of barracks, including some of the most important ones run by the Lebanese Forces. He pointed out that Israel had threatened the Lebanese Forces command and voiced its opposition to the support given 'Arafat and the Palestinians, as this backing causes a plethora of domestic problems.

## Al-Asad Meets Algeria's Ibrahimi, Arab Committee

*JN151308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1215 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi at 1330 today. Foreign Affairs Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting.

Dr Ibrahimi conveyed a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid on the situation in the region. The talks dealt with the current developments in the Arab arena and with issues of common interest.

His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad also received the Arab League's Good Offices Committee at 1130 today. Foreign Affairs Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting. The talks dealt with the committee's mission and its efforts. His excellency the president wished the committee every success in its efforts.

## Planning Council Approves 1987 General Budget

*JN141528 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1215 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] In its meeting this morning under Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the Higher Planning Council ended its discussion of the state's general budget for 1987, covering both expenditures and investments. The council resumed its discussion of the budget this morning based on economic and financial principles adopted in the first meeting. During the discussion, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm asserted that the 1987 draft budget reflected effective financial analysis of the structure of trade revenues, expenditures, and investments, thus effecting a positive development in building a realistic annual budget.

The prime minister noted that the principle of self-reliance was confidently and satisfactorily manifested in the 1987 budget. This makes the state's financial and economic position, as well as the financial and economic position of every project and establishment, carefully defined, especially since the new channels through which local revenues are increasing and the methods by which useless expenditures were reduced have been coupled with economic and financial programming for all sectors.

Al-Kasm said the budget is characterized by a determination to confront external plots of a political and economic nature, to face pan-Arab burdens, and to effect comprehensive integration of the plans of various sectors for the continuous application of the annual programs of the Sixth 5-Year Plan for economic and social development.

Following a detailed review of the budgets of various ministries and public establishments, the council approved the 1987 general state budget.

It is worth mentioning that the 1987 budget is characterized by steady improvement in economic benefits and financial gains realized by conversion industries and the establishment of extraction industries. It pays special attention to completing a number of agricultural, oil, gas, and minerals projects, which are highly promising in terms of social and economic development. It also pays attention to the direct results that the government's successive measures have realized over the past 3 years, in both organization and treatment, by facing immediate problems, establishing a sound basis for investment and production, curbing futile consumption, and continuing to reduce useless expenditure. This helped formulate the budget and effect a financial balance and economic cohesion in both the public and private sectors and in the developed agricultural and industrial structures in Syria.

**Peres Interviewed on Mideast Peace Prospects**
*PM150944 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 13 Jan 86 p 7*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Eugenio Scalfari; date and place not given]

[Excerpt][passage omitted][Scalfari] It is said you left a message for [Jordan's King] Husayn with [Italian Prime Minister] Craxi and [Italian Foreign Minister] Andreotti: Is it true? What was the message?

[Peres] There was no message. We are quite capable of talking with Husayn directly. Of course his visit to Rome is important, however, and Italy can exert useful influence on the process of negotiations between the countries directly involved in a peace settlement in the Middle East. As things stand, there are four such countries — Egypt, Morocco, Jordan, and Israel.

[Scalfari] You talk as though the negotiations were already under way, but this does not seem to be the case: You seem to be still at the preliminaries stage. Should this slow and tardy process not be accelerated?

[Peres] You are right: It should be accelerated, and we are in fact aiming to do so, as far as we can. But we are well aware of the difficulties encountered by the Arab countries I indicated that have hitherto slowed the course of events. Some of them, for instance — including Jordan — are asking that the actual negotiations take place within the context of an international conference. We consider this unnecessary, but if it is a precondition, we have already made it known that we accept it. So we welcome the international conference as long as two points are clear: The conference does not take the place of direct negotiations between the countries of the region but merely provides a framework and frame of reference; furthermore the conference cannot reach any conclusion not accepted by the countries directly concerned, nor can it annul any agreements those countries may reach among themselves.

[Scalfari] What difficulties are you saying are holding back the Arabs and slowing the course of the negotiations? Do they include terrorism?

[Peres] Certainly. Palestinian terrorism has never benefited the Palestinians and the Arab nation as a whole. On the contrary, it has been used at various times by some of the region's governments for their own hegemonic aims and conflicts —principally to hamper negotiations with Israel. Thus, Syria has created a PLO of its own, as have Iraq and Libya. When people talk about 'Arafat as a possible representative of the Palestinians they are deliberately ignoring the fact that the representation of 'Arafat's PLO is nil.

[Scalfari] Nevertheless if negotiations are able to take place with Jordan they will have to entail Palestinian participation — or this is at least what Husayn says, and he has not changed his mind on this point.

[Peres] We too accept the Palestinians' participation. But I do not believe that it can take place or be decided on before the negotiations begin. In our opinion the negotiations must first begin; then, when the framework has been established and certain preliminary issues settled, the Palestinians can usefully take part in discussing — as is right — the issues that directly affect them. This is my opinion, at least.

[Scalfari] If there is to be an international conference on the Middle East, this means the Soviet Union must participate in it. Do you consider its presence possible?

[Peres] I consider it necessary. This is why Israel is keenly interested in the U.S.-USSR detente process. Without that detente, the negotiations on the Middle East cannot get off the ground. Furthermore these negotiations could constitute one of the essential factors in that same detente process.

[Scalfari] Should there not be an improvement of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel at the same time?

[Peres] Of course there should.

[Scalfari] Has it happened? Has it happened with Gorbachev?

[Peres] There have been some signs but nothing more. Some timid signs, I would say. The atmosphere has improved but I do not yet see any plan and consistent strategy on the Kremlin's part. I can say we consider this a very important objective, but there does not yet appear to be a clear will on the other side.

[Scalfari] The USSR has made a massive military, economic, and political investment in Syria, but Syria certainly does not want an improvement of relations between the USSR and Israel. Is this perhaps the obstacle?

[Peres] Yes, it could be this, but it is not enough to stop a power such as the USSR, if that is what it wants. Syria is economically exhausted and in any case the USSR itself has no desire to become involved in a local conflict, as was clearly seen during the days of greatest tension between the United States and Al-Qadhdhafi. The USSR remains aloof from the possible Middle East conflicts; it already has enough to cope with in Afghanistan. So its friendship with Syria certainly is a problem in relations with us, but not an insuperable one.

[Scalfari] Let us return to Husayn. In your opinion is the king of Jordan entitled to represent the population of the West Bank? Can he represent them credibly?

[Peres] From a formal viewpoint those populations are part of the Jordanian state. We occupied that territory following a war declared on us by Jordan. This is the situation.

[Scalfari] But there were the Jewish settlements on the West Bank and the military government, in practice a kind of annexation, albeit undeclared....

[Peres] The settlements have now been suspended and will not be resumed. This is our initial contribution to starting negotiations with Husayn, together with considerable administrative autonomy: The mayors of all the major cities of the West Bank are now Palestinians. An important institution began operating

in that territory recently — an Egyptian bank. These are significant steps. For his part, Husayn has introduced an economic development plan for that territory. I believe Europe could do a great deal to help it, because basically it is by improving the populations' living standards and development that major steps can be taken toward peace in the region. Italy can do a great deal if it wants to. It would augur very well for the king's visit to Rome.

[Scalfari] When you consider Europe and its relations with Israel, do you feel like a European? What I mean is this: Does Israel feel part of Europe, irrespective of geographical considerations?

[Peres] I will answer you with another question: Would Jewish history be conceivable without Europe? Obviously not. We have a shared culture and memories that go back centuries, thousands of years. Unfortunately, many of these memories are painful, some even terrible, but this does not alter the fact that our roots are profoundly and unalterably intertwined, as Jewish communities throughout Europe are well aware. Nevertheless the state of Israel has its own autonomous identity. It has intensive relations with Europe. We want them to be further extended, but we do not consider ourselves to be a European state. Our future is there in that Middle East region where the state was born, with those peoples and neighboring states. It is there that we must find our vocation and our economic and social integration. For many years Israel has been a country at war, but the aspiration to peace has now become a necessity. We have no objective other than peace. Nobody can now win the war in the Middle East region: We are profoundly convinced of this.

[Scalfari] Why is it that Saudi Arabia — one of the wealthiest and most important countries of the region, so closely linked to the United States — never features in these matters? You, Mr Peres, did not even mention it among the Arab countries directly involved in the negotiations. What is the reason for this striking absence?

[Peres] The Saudi state is more a financial and family power than a political power. Throughout these years the ruling family's main concerns have been the oil price and protection against terrorism. Of course neither is a problem to be underestimated, but they are attended to so exclusively that they prevent that country from dealing with the region's problems to an extent equal to its influence.

[Scalfari] You mentioned terrorism. Do you not believe it has changed in recent months? Do you not believe that Palestinian terrorism has now been replaced by a state terrorism, as a substitute for diplomacy?

[Peres] Yes this change has occurred. But I have already said that terrorism has always been a tool in the hands of governments, certain governments of the region, so it is not a radical change. In my opinion the difference is this: Whereas before those governments acted via the intermediary of the PLO, now they act directly through their own secret services. But the substance is still the same.

[Scalfari] One final question, Mr Peres — about the Gulf war. Israel seems to be more on the side of Iran than Iraq. As you know, Henry Kissinger has formulated his own attractive, albeit somewhat malicious, hypothesis: He has said Israel is aiming at Khomeyni's victory and Iraq's humiliation so as to frighten all the Arab states and force them to seek Israel's friendship as a defense against Iranian expansionism. How do you explain your position?

[Peres] It is very clear. First, we cannot do anything to ensure the victory of one rather than the other, so the question does not arise. A victory by Tehran would create a major ideological threat to the entire region; a victory by Baghdad would create large-scale military imperialism, since Iraq is now the largest military power of the Middle East. It has thirty well-equipped divisions and very modern weaponry.

[Scalfari] Who do you believe will win?

[Peres] I do not believe the victory will be won on the battlefield. The two countries' armies are equal: One is stronger in weapons, the other in numbers. The battlefield is very difficult if it extends over 1,000 km. A victory on the battlefield is inconceivable. The outcome of the war will be decided in Tehran and Baghdad, depending on the possible internal changes within the leadership groups. [passage omitted]

### Peres Tells Murphy Peace Efforts To Continue

*TA141712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] In a meeting with U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said Israel would pursue efforts to promote the peace process and in parallel would continue to improve the standard of living in the territories. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports Richard Murphy will now return to Washington and come back to our region only after Prime Minister Shamir and Egyptian President Mubarak visit Washington next month.

### MA'ARIV Sees Husayn Motives in Murphy Mission

*TA141535 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Jan 87 p 10*

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "A Mission With No Purpose"]

[Text] In the shadow of the big American drama, in which Israel has been implicated, and at a time when anyone dealing with global and Middle East policy-making is fighting for his political life, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy abruptly arrives in the region to initiate a new political move, or in fact to revive an old one.

The visit by Murphy, who does not make do with one round but has been coming and going from Jordan to Israel several times — to demonstrate, as it were, that there is "political activity" — calls to mind the activites of Gunnar Jarring [special UN envoy to the Middle East in late 1960's] in the distant past and of Philip Habib in the nearer past and all their "optimistic assessments" that were always completely unfounded. It seems that Murphy has come to symbolize political futility, while his missions are meant to show activity and momentum. Does Washington not realize that nothing has changed and that it is impossible to pull

the so- called "political process" out of the mire as long as there is an effort to force Israel to cooperate with the PLO to that end?

In the past, in his capacity as prime minister, Shim'on Peres initiated the visits by Murphy, hoping to reach a dialogue with Husayn. This time it was Husayn's turn to urge the United States to send Murphy to the region. Husayn did not promise Murphy or his superiors anything he was not prepared to promise in the past. Husayn may have been trying to prove with this visit that he was not sparing any effort to reach an agreement on the Palestinian problem and that he would not make do with what Peres terms as practical "understandings" with Israel and the strengthening of the Jordanian infrastructure in Judaea and Samaria. Otherwise, the king's initiative does not make sense because everybody knows that he also is actually not interested in an international conference or a preparatory committee that would include the PLO and Syria, along with the Soviet Union.

Israel knows it should not expect anything of such a conference. There was a time when Peres was inclined toward such a conference, but not because he had faith in it. On the contrary, the most devastating arguments ever made against such a conference were delivered by Peres from the Knesset podium. However, he softened his position and agreed to meet King Husayn halfway for one reason only: so that Husayn would agree to give up on the participation of the PLO in such an international forum. Husayn did not make good on his word, or else his intentions were misinterpreted by Peres. In any event, Husayn is out of the game. Peres realized that his interlocutor cannot enter direct negotiations, not even under an international umbrella, as long as the Soviets do not accept the most minimal requirements — namely, that the participants in the conference must not predetermine the nature of the agreement and that the parties to the conflict must hold direct negotiations.

The Soviets finally realized that as long as they insist on their original version of the conference — in other words, that this international body should actually outline the nature of the peace agreement — there is no chance such a conference will be called. In view of their fervent desire to return to the diplomatic arena in this region, as partners to the formulation of an agreement along with the United States, they have recently agreed to have the international conference allow the parties to step aside and conduct direct talks. This is yet another reason why Husayn insisted that Murphy be sent to the area: to respond to the Soviet challenge. Egypt, not to mention the PLO, argues that now that the Soviet Union is not ruling out "direct talks," even if held under the aegis of an international conference, Jordan cannot reject Moscow's position.

This is why Murphy appeared in the area on a peace mission that has no purpose other than to neutralize the softened Soviet initiative, which allegedly takes into consideration the Israeli position — to enable it to conduct direct negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinians.

Israel is not impressed. Moscow's authoritative and genuine position has been expressed in a document distributed in the United Nations: "The purpose of the (international) conference, as we see it, is to reach an agreement that will ensure the return of all the territories Israel occupied in 1967 and the fulfillment of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination." Not to leave any doubt about the meaning of this definition, the Soviets unambiguously state... "through the establishment of an independent state."

The desire to become a mediator in an international conference did not prevent Moscow from expressing what it really thinks about Israel in that same document: "aggressive, racist, an obstacle to any peace agreement, believes in the superiority of Zionism and the chosen people," and other assorted terms evincing hatred.

Moreover, there are those who believe that there is still a chance that Israel may agree to let the Soviet Union help to shape peace in the region, either by means of an international conference or without it; even Murphy would seem to believe this. He could have heard otherwise not only from Yitzhaq Shamir, but also from Shim'on Peres. If Murphy has anything to offer beyond what he has brought in the past, he will always be a welcome guest here. However, from the practical point of view of promoting the peace process, even when he does not bring along any goods, it is important to know what "Murphy's visit" really means today....

**Significance of Tour Viewed**

*TA141630 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Richard Murphy is winding up his trip to the Middle East and returning to Washington tomorrow. Today Murphy briefed Prime Minister Shamir about his talks in Amman and Cairo. Officials in the Prime Minister's Office say the differences between Jordan and Egypt persist. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

It may definitely be said about this trip by Murphy, as well as several of his previous ones, that its importance lies in the very fact that it was held following a long political freeze in the wake of the Iran affair and the ensuing credibility crisis between Washington and its friends in the Arab world. The trip is also important because it once again confirmed the desire of Israel, Egypt, and Jordan to make progress in the peace process. Other than that, following a double round of talks in Amman, Cairo, and Jerusalem, there has been no change in the basic situation. Murphy told Prime Minister Shamir this morning that King Husayn demands an international peace conference be called with the full participation of the Soviet Union. In response, Shamir stated Israel's position that direct negotiations are preferable to an international conference. It seems the prime minister may have been ready to accept a semblance of an international conference — namely, an international accompaniment provided mainly by the United States — but without Moscow's participation. The Jordanians are not prepared to make do with U.S.-European aegis, and King Husayn said as much to Murphy in the clearest of terms.

There are also differences within the Arab world, about which Murphy reports time and again. The rift between Jordan and the PLO is very deep, and King Husayn is not prepared to soften his position toward 'Arafat. In contrast, Cairo still regards the PLO

as a very important partner to political negotiations, a partner whose positions must be taken into consideration.

At the end of his meeting with the prime minister, Murphy said he would return to the United States tomorrow convinced of two principles: First, quiet diplomacy should be given a good chance to work; second, the sides are serious in their intentions about promoting the peace process. Murphy proposed to the prime minister that the political talks continue during Shamir's visit in Washington in mid-February. Murphy may return later for another round of talks in the region.

Murphy also held meetings with the defense and foreign ministers today. As said, he will return to Washington tomorrow for debriefings and consultations.

### Beilin, Armacost Discuss S. Africa, Iran Affair

*TA150712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] The U.S. Administration does not intend to make Israel the scapegoat in the Iran arms affair. The decisions made on this issue were the sole responsibility of the United States, for good or for bad, said U.S. Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost in a talk with Foreign Ministry Political Director General Dr Yosi Beilin, who has concluded 2 days of talks with officials in the U.S. Administration. Our Washington correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports:

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] At Congress' request, the U.S. State Department is presently preparing a report to examine which countries are violating the embargo on South Africa and supplying arms to that country. Any country appearing on the list will not benefit from U.S. aid. Israel's relations with South Africa served as a topic for discussion in talks Dr Beilin held.

[Beilin] South Africa came up in the talks with Armacost during a discussion on Africa in general. In the past we said that we would not fall far behind the European and the U.S. policy on South Africa, and we will keep our word.

[Schiffer] We have not signed any contracts for the supply of arms to South Africa since 1977, Dr Beilin stressed.

As for the peace process in the region, I asked him if there was any chance of moving on this issue in light of the administration currently dealing almost solely with the Iran affair.

[Beilin] I am convinced that there is a chance. At this moment, actually, the United States has shown an interest in continuing the peace process. This was shown by Mr Murphy's visit to our region and his talks with various elements in the area. There is absolutely no reason for the peace process not to advance now. I think that in the United States, Israel, and the moderate Arab countries there is a willingness to continue the process, and this should be encouraged.

[Schiffer] At this stage, Dr Beilin added, the United States is examining the extent of agreement between Israel, Jordan, and Egypt, in order to determine the next move.

Members of the administration made repeated efforts to promise Israel that they are not planning to make Israel the scapegoat in the Iran arms affair.

[Beilin] The Iran issue did not come up as a separate topic in my talks. However, at the beginning of the talks yesterday, Mr Armacost said that the U.S. Administration has absolutely no reason to make Israel the scapegoat in this affair. Whatever the case, the decisions were made by the U.S. Administration, for good or for bad, and it alone is responsible for them. He felt the need to say this, and I, of course, welcomed his remarks. [end recording]

### Nir Submits Document Denying Contra Connection

*TA150735 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15 Jan 87 p 1*

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser, has recently submitted to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres a special report about his role in the Iranian affair, after Shamir, Peres, and Rabin asked him to outline all the contacts he had with various U.S. and Iranian elements in the course of the affair.

Nir was asked to document his moves in the wake of the findings leaked from the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee. According to these disclosures, it was Nir who urged the Americans to continue the arms supply to Iran, claiming that this was the wish of then Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

The special report 'Amiram Nir prepared contains dozens of pages detailing all of his activities from the moment he replaced David Kimche, the previous head of the Israeli team dealing with the affair. Nir firmly denies any involvement in contacts with the contras, ascribing all responsibility for these contacts to the members of the U.S. Security Council.

This version by the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser has recently been supported by a message Vice President George Bush sent to Foreign Minister Peres. In his message, Bush confirms that the transfer of funds to the contras had never been raised in his talks with 'Amiram Nir.

### 'Lack of Coordination' With U.S. on Iran Hit

*TA141227 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Jan 87 p 10*

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "The Coordination Blunder"]

[Text] Documents that have been publicized so far on the supply of U.S. arms to Iran through Israel have revealed one very worrying phenomenon: a lack of coordination in the sphere of public relations, if and when the issue became known to the public.

Since the "Iran affair" broke at the beginning of last November, Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has said repeatedly that "Israel has no regrets over its part in this

affair and has nothing to apologize for." Indeed, in contrast to President Reagan who admitted in public that "the supply of arms to Iran might have been a mistake," Israel has no reason to regret the efforts it made to find the way to Tehran's heart.

In fact, since the overthrow of the shah in February 1979, the Begin, Shamir, and Peres governments have not concealed their view that the rise of Khomeyni to power has not changed Iran's geopolitical status and that Israel should prepare for the period after Khomeyni. In addition, Israel has never hidden its opinion that those elements that might come into power in Tehran should be supported. Twice during Begin's term as prime minister — once during President Carter's rule and once during President Reagan's — Israel was called upon to halt arms shipments to Iran that five Israeli defense ministers — Weizman, Begin, Sharon, Arens, and Rabin — knew about to some extent.

Thus, as far as Israel is concerned, the move was both legal and wise and did not contradict Israel's foreign and defense political objectives. Even the United States acknowledged Israel's interest. The U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee report quotes Secretary of State George Shultz as having warned National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane against involvement in the Iranian issue "since the interests of Israel and the United States do not coincide in this case." Reagan ignored his secretary of state's recommendation and approved the opening of the communication channel to Iran and the start of arms shipments to Khomeyni through Israel.

However, from the moment Reagan made his decision, Israel and the United States should have coordinated their public relations policy on the matter. It appears that such coordination did indeed take place at the time David Kimche and Robert Mcfarlane were handling the issue. But in December 1985 the two recommended to their governments the consignments be halted for the time being, as they had learned that Iran was more interested in "arms in exchange for hostages" and not in a meaningful Iranian-American dialogue.

We do not have authoritative information on what caused Israel and the United States to ignore Kimche and McFarlane's recommendations and to resume the arms shipments to Iran. We do not know what considerations were involved in Peres' decision to remove Kimche from Israel's part in coordinating the affair and to entrust 'Amiram Nir with such a sensitive and complex matter. In any event, from the moment this decision was made, there certainly was room to coordinate positions to decide who would say what and when. Had Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North and Nir coordinated on this matter, Israel would not have been revealed in such an embarrassing manner, and the contradictions in the Israeli and American positions would not have presented Israel as a country whose leaders do not tell the truth. This claim is made in spite of McFarlane's admission that he lied in his testimony on the first stage of the arms deals to cover for the President.

In the circumstances that have now been created, when U.S. newspapers alone feed their readers with selective leaks on Israel's part in the Iran arms affair, it is doubtful Israel will be able to permit itself to continue to remain silent. After the White House made official documents public, there was a tendency in Jerusalem to regard this matter as "an internal U.S. argument," of which Israel must not be a part. This approach was correct as long as the matter was limited to reports in the U.S. press. However, from the moment the documents were officially made public by the White House, the affair became no longer an internal American one.

Despite the calming words conveyed to Jerusalem from the White House, Israel is presented in these documents as responsible for prompting the administration to resume the consignments to Iran. The "forum of prime ministers" (Shamir, Peres, Rabin) that decided to send 'Amiram Nir to Washington must explain to the Israeli public its considerations and why it decided to place this delicate matter in the hands of Nir, who has neither an understanding of Iranian affairs nor a suitable Middle Eastern background.

However, Israel must, above all, act quickly to pinpoint the dispute so that an internal American argument does not become an Israeli-American one. The Israeli effort to seek approaches to Iran is correct and legal, but Israel's leaders must explain their reasoning.

## POST Views Decision Not To Cut Defense Budget

*TA140851 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Jan 87 p 1*

[Analysis by Hirsh Goodman: "Defence Victory a 'Hollow One'"]

[Text] The fact that the defence budget was not cut was considered a victory in the defence establishment yesterday, and a feather in the cap of Defence Minister Rabin, who had to face considerable opposition from his cabinet colleagues.

Fiscal 1987 will be the first year in almost a decade that military spending will not be cut. In fact, given the 10 per cent devaluation, the defence establishment will earn a NIS [new Israeli shekels] 50 million bonanza from the shekel conversion of $300 million in American aid money allowed to be spent in Israel on the Lavi fighter project.

Nevertheless, several key advisers in the Defence Ministry consider the victory a hollow one. They had initially asked for a NIS 400m. addition, with NIS 150m. the "essential minimum" needed to meet current and future needs and correct some of the imbalances of the past.

The advisers had intended to increase training days for reserve units made idle by previous budged cuts, and to revive several key R & D projects frozen over the years. They also sought to increase training for the standing army, specifically flying hours in the Air Force which for the past three years have been kept way below what the experts regard as an acceptable level, and to restore stockpiles to required contingency levels. It was also hoped that more money would be available to improve service conditions to counter the army's growing problem of retaining qualified manpower, and for local procurement that would add to the sophistication of the existing order of battle.

It is now clear that many of the hopes of the general staff will have to be deferred unto better economic times in Israel.

Though the budget was not cut, defence planners are still faced with the following problems:

— The defence budget is a nominal one, and not linked to the conservative estimate that the consumer price index will rise by 25 per cent next year.

— the pending reorganization of the country's fuel storage and distribution system will leave the army solely responsible for all storage costs at a cost of millions of shekels. Until now the storage of fuel was partially paid for by special levy on the national fuel distributors.

— The cancellation of a 0.1 per cent National Insurance payment paid to the defence ministry as a contribution to the cost of civil defence will also cost an undisclosed sum estimated at over NIS 10m.

There are also increasingly clear indications that on the operational level the IDF will probably be faced with an accelerating deterioration of the situation in Southern Lebanon over the coming year. This will mean additional expenditure, both in support of the South Lebanese Army and in direct intervention.

On the positive side, strategic planners believe the probability of war with Syria is extremely low, coupled with their assessment that the growth rate of the Syrian army will not match previous estimates, given Syria's deteriorating economic situation. Pressure has thus been reduced on the military to develop some of the specific responses to weapons systems that the Syrians would like to be using in coming years.

The Lavi fighter project, however, remains at the heart of the defence budget. Conservative estimates see the project absorbing at least NIS 100m. in domestic funds next year, above the $550m. budgeted, with more funding required as the aircraft moves toward production at the end of the decade.

"As long as the Lavi remains a national project, independent of the defence budget, its development will continue. If the burden is entirely ours, the fighter is doomed," THE JERUSALEM POST was told.

**Knesset Defeats No-Confidence Motions on Economy**
*TA141354 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1333 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] A few minutes ago, in a majority vote, the Knesset struck down five no-confidence motions submitted by MAPAM, Hadash [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality], the Citizens Rights Movement, Tehiya, and the Progressive List for Peace. Our Knesset correspondent Yinon Shenkar reports that the motions all dealt with the Cabinet's economic program.

**Peled Says No Need For Reinforcements in Lebanon**
*TA141825 Jeruslem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] The head of Northern Command, Major General Yosi Peled, says Israel has no plans to send reinforcements into Lebanon to counter Hizballah threats against the South Lebanon Army [SLA]. Talking to reporters in Marj 'Uyun after a memorial ceremony to mark the third anniversary of the death of Lebanon army Major Sa'd Haddad, Peled said Israel saw no need to change its present activities or attitude in the security zone. I suggest we leave things in the right perspective, he said, adding that although the SLA has gone through a difficult period because of increased attacks by large groups of Hizballah men, he remains convinced that a way will be found to deal with the situation.

**Fatah Activist Expelled for Subversion**
*TA140524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] The head of the Army command has ordered the expulsion of Muhammad Yusuf Dakhlan for subversive activities. Dakhlan, from Khan Yunus in Gaza, is head of the Fatah youth organization in the Gaza strip. Military sources say that Dakhlan engaged in subversive activities, incitement, and instructing others to carry out subversive action on behalf of the PLO. The sources said Dakhlan received money and instructions from Fatah abroad. He had been arrested previously six times, but reportedly increased his activities for the PLO in recent months. Dakhlan reserves the right of appeal to a military committee and, if his appeal is rejected, can turn to the High Court of Justice.

## ALGERIA

### Cooperation Agreement Signed With USSR

*LD142228 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] A cooperation agreement was signed this afternoon between the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Ministry of Higher Education. The agreement provides for the development of scientific cooperation on the basis of mutual advantage. It was signed by Mr (Khaladi), director of postgraduate affairs and scientific research, and Mr (Kolkov), deputy scientific secretary general of the USSR Academy of Sciences. [passage omitted]

## LIBYA

### Former U.S. Intelligence Officer Reveals Plot

*LD150953 Tripoli JANA in English 0901 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Washington, Ay Alnar 15, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — 'Fralavisky,' a former member of staff of the U.S. intelligence service who is now the head of the U.S. security department, revealed in an interview with the U.S. Army broadcasting station that there exists preparations for a U.S.-French plot against Great Jamahiriyah by way of Chad in which Egypt will take part.

### Spanish Protest of Al-Qadhdhafi Article Rejected

*LD142202 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has informed the Spanish ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah that it rejects the Spanish Government's protest of the position expressed by the brother leader of the revolution in an article in the Paris publication *Politique Internationale* on the right of the people of the Canary Islands to obtain independence from Spain.

The People's Committee stressed the following to the Spanish ambassador:

First: The Great Jamahiriyah's rejection of the protest and explanation submitted by the Spanish Government.

Second: Spain was the one who started the aggression when it allowed U.S. aircraft and warships to use its airspace and ports to carry out aggression on the people of the Great Jamahiriyah, to destroy Libyan homes, and to kill men, women, and children.

Third: Spain should work toward evicting the U.S. bases and fleets from its territories. This would be a sincere expression of the Spanish Government's goodwill toward the people of the Great Jamahiriyah.

Fourth: The brother leader of the revolution has more than once stressed that the people of the Canary Islands have a right to independence as an Arab African people, that the cause of these islands is an African cause, and that the OAU is committed to finding a solution that will necessarily lead to independence for this people.

## SUDAN

### Libya Approves Khartoum Mediation on Chad

*JN141559 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Jan (SUNA) — It was announced here today that the Libyan Jamahiriyah has agreed to allow Sudan to exert efforts to end the war in Chad and the presence of foreign forces there.

This announcement came when State Council Chairman Ahmad 'Ali al- Mirghani and Council members met today with Ra'lul al-Sanusi, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's personal envoy.

In a statement after the meeting, Al-Sanusi said he conveyed a verbal message from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi on bilateral relations and the current situation in Chad.

The Libyan envoy also met today with Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. A responsible source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs explained that the two officials discussed bilateral relations in addition to the war in Chad and the Libyan Jamahiriyah's stand on it.

### Al-Mahdi on Domestic Scene, Regional Issues

*PM131715 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 3-9 Jan 87 pp 14-16*

[Interview with Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi by Hamidah Na'na' in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Na'na'] Can it be said that your present experiment is an attempt to contain the intellectual-political diversity of the Sudanese arena to mold something new that surpasses all the political and intellectual differences in the arena? What form will this plan practically take?

[Al-Mahdi] No. We want to establish an intellectual government, and we now have a historic opportunity to create a special Sudanese experiment. [passage omitted]

[Na'na'] You have chosen the plurality experiment by mutual consent. But now one notices, in your words, that ambition that you had in exile; namely, to create a middle-of-the-road current deriving its principles from Islam. Assuming that, within the framework of plurality, the Sudanese Communist Party wins the majority of votes and becomes the party in power, what will your position be?

[Al-Mahdi] Let it be. I am talking about what I want, and others are entitled to talk about what they want. But I wish to say that communism cannot have a real future in an Islamic country.

[Na'na'] These words open the door wide for dialogue and debate. Can you tell us why communism cannot have a future in an Islamic environment?

[Al-Mahdi] For many reasons. From an Islamic starting point, communism is tantamount to criticism of Western capitalism's excessive materialism, class confrontation, and the like.

First, Islam acknowledges material value and, second, it acknowledges social justice. If economic practice acknowledging the value of the material element and the necessity of social justice exists, then it is my opinion that it will be very difficult to establish a communist alternative, especially because Marxism wants its followers to renounce religious belief and national identity.

[Na'na'] Seven months have passed since you became prime minister. We are aware that you inherited problems, such as foreign debts estimated at nearly $13 billion, the complex war in the south, inflation, and the lack of trust between government and people. How are you tackling these problems, and what is the means to deal with them?

[Al-Mahdi] It is true that it is a very difficult legacy, but it is not without elements that help in tackling it. Sudan is a country rich in natural resources. A single successful agricultural season can yield $5 billion. The past season was successful by all criteria. This was a major material accomplishment to which we are trying to add to solve the economic crisis.

As for the southern problem, it is actually very complex. However, there is [no] separatist program. Rather, their statements on the southern problem show that they are eager for Sudan's unity.

Moreover, numerous internal factors have developed. There are two currents in the south: A fabricated Marxist current with no mainstays, and a Christian current. This fact has created very big internal intellectual conflicts. There also is the tribal factor;the movement's prevalent tendency is controlled by a faction from the Dinka tribe. Other factions from other tribes reject this tendency.

A third factor leading to the movement's disintegration from within is the faction that believes that the establishment in Sudan of a democratic regime which wants to talk and negotiate eliminates every justification for continuing violence. There currently is disagreement within the movement between the faction that clings to violence and the faction that urges negotiations. We can state clearly that the movement has now become an agent of Ethiopia. [passage omitted]

As for the point in your question regarding the Sudanese people's trust in the regime, I wish to say that the Sudanese people have regained their self-confidence and that even the radical intellectual currents in Sudan have turned into extremely moderate ones. They are more moderate now than at any phase in Sudan's history. If one were to compare the present intellectual currents in Sudan with the similar currents in other environments, whether in the Arab East or the Arab Maghreb, one would find that these currents are largely moderate and reasonable. I can say this for all the political movements. Moderation here does not mean weakness or concession but tolerance. [passage omitted]

[Na'na'] Let us turn to your relations with Egypt. Relations with Egypt pose an important problem for the intellectual and political forces in the Sudanese arena. How do you view relations with Cairo in light of the existing circumstances?

[Al-Mahdi] Relations with Egypt, particularly the integration agreement, have been subjected to propaganda in the past that served not so much relations between the two countries as the strengthening of the regime. [passage omitted]

The prevailing tendency among the Sudanese people is to reject the old forms and to try to develop a new form. We have formed a committee consisting of two notables — Dr Ibrahim al-Amin and Dr Husayn Abu Salih — to draft a new charter. We believe that ultimately relations may not be confined to agreement between the two governments but will embrace agreements between the two peoples as well. We must lay the foundations for, and establish the popular dimension; specifically, relations must surpass the framework of official relations to nonpartisan horizons. This is an approach we have decided to pursue, and it is compatible with any activity that helps bolster the relations between the two peoples within a framework of common objectives.

[Na'na'] Does the issue of former President Ja'far Numayri's extradition still affect Egyptian-Sudanese relations?

[Al-Mahdi] Numayri harmed the Sudanese people, and there is a popular demand for his extradition, not as a political refugee, but as a real criminal who caused economic, financial, and political catastrophes. The people want him called to account and tried.

[Na'na'] That is a different issue. But if you demand his extradition as a political refugee, it is feared that his extradition will become a precedent and that, consequently, there is no guarantee that this precedent will not be applied in the future to other political refugees who have taken asylum in Egypt because of their honorable national stances and their defense of their peoples' causes.

[Al-Mahdi] Who says that we are demanding his extradition as a political refugee? We are demanding his extradition as an ordinary criminal. By the way, we find that Article 53 of the Egyptian Constitution, which defines a political refugee as an individual pursued by his country because of his defense of liberties and human rights, does not apply to Numayri. To speak of Numayri as a political refugee is fundamentally incorrect. It is a fact that the insurgent government led by Lieutenant General Siwar al-Dhahab asked the Egyptian Government to keep Numayri in Egypt so as to prevent bloodshed. This fact did actually play a role in preventing bloodshed because, had Numayri returned at that stage, he could have used his powers to bear down on the people. But that stage ended with the elections. During the elections, one of the slogans raised in the campaign was the demand for Numayri's extradition so that he could stand trial. The post-election stage is different from the past stages. Conditions have stabilized in Sudan. The people have

expressed their will, and they demand Ja'far Numayri's extradition. The situation is different.

[Na'na'] The extradition of former President Numayri does not seem to be the sole obstacle to the development of relations with Egypt. Do you not agree with us that the relations are more complex? Incidentally, when will you be paying your visit to Egypt, which has been repeatedly announced but never made?

[Al-Mahdi] The problem between us and Egypt is not one of personal relations. Sudanese and Egyptian officials exchange visits. It is true that I have not personally visited Egypt. I was planning to visit that country before the end of the elections in response to an invitation from the Cairo University Teaching Faculty Club. The Egyptian Embassy asked me at the time to delay the visit for 4 days for reasons connected with certain arrangements. But I was not convinced of the reasons and that is what delayed the visit.

[Na'na'] And now?

[Al-Mahdi] The principle of a visit exists. As to when, I do not know. I have a number of visits scheduled.

[Na'na'] With respect to your visit to Iran, do you plan to mediate for an end to the Iraq-Iran war?

[Al-Mahdi] Our relations with Iran are not founded on a political basis only. We are about the only party whose relations with Iran are founded on an intellectual basis, not on the basis of the existing tension or conflicts. [passage omitted]

We do not determine our positions toward Iran solely on the basis of the war. There are other factors that must be taken into account. The presence of the Shi'ite Muslims and the Iranian people's weighty movement cannot be discounted. We believe that it is possible to play a role to end this war, not by ordinary mediation but by better awareness of the particulars of the situation. So my visit to Iran will not be within the framework of mediation. I am going by special invitation within the framework of the two countries' bilateral relations.

[Na'na'] Now that the U.S.-Israeli weapons deal with Iran has been exposed, do you believe that the possibilities of intellectual and intersectarian dialogue continue to form a basis for relations between an Arab country and Iran?

[Al-Mahdi] I do not believe that relations between states are so innocent. For example, we do not establish relations with the Soviet Union or the United States on the basis of their policy. We are aware of America's relations with Israel and the Soviet Union's relationship with the Afghanistan issue, and yet we have relations with both. Relations between states are not like a marriage, which presumes the presence of love between the two parties. Relations between states have aspects of agreement and aspects of disagreement.

I have been aware for some time that Israel is playing a role in that war. Israel, though cognizant of Iran's principled position against it, believes that embroiling an Arab country like Iraq in war is in its interest because it divides the Arab entity that threatens Israel. Israel considers Iran's rejection an intellectual rejection, whereas the Arab rejection is one of blood and soil — a rejection with an intellectual aspect but also with a tangible aspect. From Israel's viewpoint, any support for Iran is likely to harm and weaken Iraq, which poses a strategic threat to Israel. This is what Israel is doing with its support for Ethiopia. Even though the Addis Ababa regime is a Marxist regime, Israel aids it for the same reasons. It wants to exploit the area's conflicts between Arab states or among Palestinians in its interest, regardless of whether the conflicts are sectarian or intellectual. When I hear this kind of information, I am not surprised. This does not mean that I condone it; rather, I condemn it. [passage omitted]

[Na'na'] Before we embark on Sudan's concerns, I wish to ask you about the latest Islamic conference held in Istanbul, in which you participated, and about the meeting you had there with Islamic National Front [INF] Secretary General Dr Hasan al-Turabi — a meeting in which agreement was reached on a number of specific points. To what degree do such meetings, held abroad, serve your problems in Sudan? Why are such meetings not held in Sudan?

[Al-Mahdi] First, the meeting was held in, not outside Sudan, within a very clear framework; namely, the framework of the southern issue, because our position is that the southern issue must be solved within a national framework in which, if possible, all Sudanese participate. We preach this approach, and we have polarized all the Sudanese political forces around it. When an opportunity emerged for an understanding with the INF on this issue, we took it.

The INF took part in the Sudanese economic conference that drafted a plan during the transitional period. The plan is the outcome of the various viewpoints on economic strategy. This is something good. The government must pursue any means in our interest to expand Sudanese concord.

In the government's view, security does not mean the police alone. There has to be political security. We feel it is an essential part of the government's duties to expand political security by increasing the bases of concord whenever we can.

[Na'na'] Our question is not an objection to the principle of meeting, because meeting is normal and necessary. But do you not believe that meetings held abroad within the framework of the Islamic Council, the Islamic Conference, or other Islamic organizations, and in which the southern issue is discussed, may give the other side the opportunity for a similar Christian polarization, thus giving the World Council of Churches, for example, a pretext for interfering?

[Al-Mahdi] My participation in Islamic conferences has nothing to do with my presence or nonpresence in governments, because this participation in these conferences and in Islamic demonstrations began before I attained power. I believe there is a comprehensive Islamic awakening, and I want to contribute to steering that awakening in the direction of progress rather than in the closed directions in which some forces want to steer it. We participated in this awakening. Now that the awakening has gained strength, we cannot steer away from it. The meeting I had with Dr Hasan al-Turabi was just a coincidence. The main

meeting took place in Sudan. The truth is that our meeting meant no more than that we were in the same place. We discussed nothing new at that meeting. The meeting in which cooperation within the framework of Sudan's existing national issues was discussed and agreed on took place here in Sudan a week before my departure for Istanbul.

[Na'na'] Despite the accomplishments achieved since the uprising, many Sudanese people still feel concerned. The source of this concern is:

First, no progress on the economic issue since the government assumed power 7 months ago.

Second, no development in the "September laws" issue. The people feel it would have been better if the laws had been abolished at the outset of the events and in the wake of the uprising.

Third, despite all efforts so far, no progress on the southern issue. Many believe that, if these problems continue to be unsolved, they will be like a sword hanging over the government's neck and over the democratic experiment and that the interaction of these problems will lead to a setback. How do you view the issue?

[Al-Mahdi] I once described what has been accomplished in this period by saying: We have brought Joseph out of the darkness of the well. When we assumed power, the talk about the Sudanese economy was negative. The state treasury was empty and we needed, but could not find, $150 million to purchase agricultural resources. So we resorted to loans. But for the future we have decided and declared not to import agricultural products. We will have self-sufficiency. For example, we will have corn production amounting to 6 million [metric] tons annually. This is a very big accomplishment because corn sells at $120 per ton. The same will apply to other crops. If we can achieve self-sufficiency in the agricultural area, we will leap from the negative to the positive. This is the first leap. The second leap is in self-reliance and in halting imports.

When we took over the reins of government, we noticed that Sudanese industry was producing at no more than 20 percent its capacity. We pledged to raise this rate to 50 percent and to draft an economic plan covering all areas, because no such plan had existed before. The government intends to draw up a 4-year plan next year to organize future production. [passage omitted]

We then proceeded to tackle the banking sector. We studied all kinds of loans and the activities of the general banks, or the so-called Islamic banks. We terminated their financing of domestic trade so that the public sector banks could replace them. The latter are now responsible for financing domestic trade. The private banks or joint banks finance certain sectors only, such as the industry and investment sectors. [passage omitted]

Thus, numerous positive steps have been taken in the economic area.

As for the second problem, namely, abolishing the September laws, the transitional government was supposed to take a revolutionary position toward them. But this did not happen, and that government took a negative position. We are now compelled to observe the constitutional procedures, and we have to refer to the parliament and the institutions. We cannot make any decision we wish in the cabinet. We have to observe the constitutional institutions. We have formed qualified national committees to study the laws and to draft new ones. These committees include a number of lawyers, law professors, and shari'ah professors. Alternative laws have been presented, and all of them have been developed through reviews in which a number of people have been engaged. Nobody can deny this fact or the effort that has been made to study and present the legal alternative.

We decided to freeze the September laws until a legal alternative is found. The suspension was not made offhandedly. Its objective was not to create a legal void.

As for the southern issue, a major development has occurred. When we came, the picture was vague. It was not definitely known what Garang wanted and to what extent he would go. We quickly settled all the positions and discussed and defined all the points of disagreement. [passage omitted]

The southerners have generally excluded the idea of secession, which was the main obstacle to negotiation. The northerners have excluded the idea of imposing anything on the southerners by force. Establishing a cease-fire and holding a conference are to be the next step. [passage omitted]

## WESTERN SAHARA

### SDAR Announces 'Destruction' of British Vessel

*LD141833 Algiers APS in Arabic 1650 GMT*
*14 Jan 87*

[Text] SDAR Liberated Areas, 14 Jan 87 APS — A statement by the Saharan Ministry of Information today announced the destruction of a British boat (*Turtle Toe*), which was sailing in Saharan territorial waters near Dakhla on Monday. The statement added that the two passengers — an English person, Maureen Broker, and a Swede, Nelson Honsnayn, — were safe and in good health.

## CAR

### Continuing Reportage on Bokassa Trial in Bangui

#### 15th Hearing Held 8 Jan

*AB091739 Paris AFP in French 1619 GMT 8 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Bangui, 8 Jan (AFP) — The 3 February 1976 abortive coup d'etat, which nearly led to the death of Jean-Bedel Bokassa, was mentioned today at the 15th hearing of the trial of CAR's ex-emperor.

The attempted coup was organized by ex-squadron leader Fidele Obrou, Jean-Bedel Bokassa's son-in-law. [passage omitted]

At today's hearing the criminal court, presided over by Edouard Frank, examined the cases of other soldiers arrested in connection with the abortive coup. According to the prosecution, these soldiers were arrested the night after the coup, transfered to the Ngaragba Prison in Bangui, and executed the next day. [passage omitted] Jean-Bedel Bokassa said on several occasions that he was totally ignorant of these arrests and of the disappearances connected with the Obrou case, which was "legally tried by a CAR court." The court then brought up the "case of the two Martines." [Bokassa's adopted children] [passage omitted]

The 16th hearing of the Bokassa trial will take place Friday [9 January] at the Bangui Court of Justice.

#### 16th Session Held 9 Jan

*AB101150 Paris AFP in French 1854 GMT 9 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Bangui, 9 Jan (AFP) — The cases of those who disappeared and who were arrested in connection with the 3 February 1976 coup attempt were at the center of the 16th session of former CAR emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa's trial in Bangui Criminal Court.

Those behind this coup attempt, which resulted in an attempt on the life of President Bokassa at Bangui-Mpoko Airport, were mostly tried and sentenced to death, then executed.

The court, presided over by Edouard Frank, did not examine the case of the "plotters" but that of members of the families of those sentenced. After about 10 witnesses for the prosecution testified, it appeared that members of the "plotters" families were also arrested a few days after the attempt and some of them, who had been detained in Ngaragba Prison, were executed. However, no witness was able to prove that the arrests or executions of those people were ordered by Jean-Bedel Bokassa. [passage omitted]

The next hearing in Bokassa's trial will take place on Tuesday [14 January], Frank announced before adjourning. The hearing was scheduled to resume on Monday but was canceled because the Court is bereaved by the death of Michel Griss-Bembe, former vice president of the CAR Supreme Court and president of the Armed Forces' Permanent Tribunal. [passage omitted]

## CHAD

### FANT Communique on 13 Jan Fighting in Zouar

*AB141417 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[FANT High Command Communique issued on 14 January]

[Text] Violent fighting took place Tuesday, 13 January 1987, from 1600 to 2100 at the entrance to the town of Zouar between the courageous FANT and Libyan soldiers. The final outcome of this fierce fighting is as follows:

Ten battletanks, including seven T-56 tanks and three T-55 tanks, were destroyed; three Toyotas equipped with [words indistinct] were destroyed; one Toyota equipped with surface-to-surface missiles was destroyed; three Toyota personnel carriers were destroyed; five Mercedes 2632's loaded with all sorts of ammunition were destroyed; two water tanks and an ambulance were destroyed; two SAM-6 carriers were destroyed; and four BMC's were destroyed. Six enemy prisoners were captured, including Turks and Malians. Seventy-six soldiers were killed, including Lieutenant Colonel Mousbah Mansour Aramais. The enemy command post is totally destroyed. Lieutenant Colonel Khalifa Habsar, who is now on the run across the rocks along with some of his men, is being pursued by our forces.

Equipment seized: Two Toyotas were captured, including one equipped with radio facilities.

On our soldiers side, we regret the death of four martyrs, who fell honorably in active service, and 10 wounded. In materials, three Toyotas were destroyed.

The glorious freedom fighters are relentlessly pursuing their task of saving and liberating the nation.

Immortal glory to our martyrs who have fallen honorably in active service!

Forward, fighters! Forward in unity, freedom fighters, for the final victory!

## CONGO

### Government Urges End to Hostilities in Chad

*AB091300 Dakar PANA in French 0956 GMT 9 Jan 87*

[Text] Brazzaville, 9 Jan (ACI/PANA) — The Congolese Government on Thursday [8 January] made an urgent appeal for an end to hostilities in Chad, calling on the "parties concerned" to respect OAU resolutions that advocate "negotiation and dialogue."

The government, which made the appeal at the end of its first meeting in 1987, said it was "extremely concerned with the tragedy that has plagued this sister country for over two decades."

"The Congolese Government expresses its concern over the turn of events in this country, which needs to live in peace, in independence, and in unity," the Cabinet meeting report stressed.

It adds that the "parties involved" should conform "to the OAU resolutions, which advocate the use of dialogue and negotiation in search of a true and lasting solution."

## GABON

### Aurillac on Libreville Meeting, Monetary Fund

*AB142142 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1230 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Our guest on this news broadcast is Michel Aurillac. On the occasion of the Franco-African meeting [on economic development], which just ended in Libreville, the French cooperation minister kindly agreed to describe the new image of cooperation, according to which, he says, economic relations between men and enterprises should be the impetus behind development. In this interview granted to Pierre-Brice Mdoumba, Adama Gueye, and Crepin Nganga, Michel Aurillac talks about the various conditions susceptible for guaranteeing a market economy via a new current of exchange between European and African businessmen. It is this very logic of partnership that constituted the essence of the debate in Libreville.

Michel Aurillac also brings out the major focus of the new cooperation policy: relying on privatization operations being undertaken in most African states. The French cooperation minister gives his impression of the Franco-African meeting.

[Begin recording] [Aurillac] First of all it is an event in itself that nearly 700 industrialists, bankers, businessmen, and experts have met in Libreville to talk not of cooperation in the abstract, but of operations that can be jointly carried out by African and French enterprises. It is very important. And then there are many African business leaders, from 27 countries; that is, in itself, a manifestation of the vitality of African enterprise.

[Reporter] Yes, Mr Minister, somebody said this Franco-African meeting is a conference of businessmen because few women were represented. How do you feel about the absence of women, particularly French women?

[Aurillac] Well, the businesswomen present were African. I saw that they were aggressive businesswomen. So the number was weak but the spirit was great.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, cooperation between the rich and the developing countries appears often as a hindrance for the well-to-do countries. And public aid from some states to other states is somewhat conditional. Some even speak in terms of generosity. Do you think the Libreville dialogue, of which you have made African vitality the keynote, will lead to the realization of this idea of partnership between France and African countries?

[Aurillac] Partnership, first of all, is not intended to replace public aid. France has provided the example, because this year as we organize the Libreville meetings with the Gabonese Government, we are considerably increasing our public aid to Africa. We are not trying to abandon our role in the enterprises. It is necessary for African businesses to develop because, however important public aid may be, it cannot replace the creation of wealth by enterprises that produce, sell, and employ. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] As minister of cooperation, responsible for the issues affecting France and Africa, you are certainly aware of attempts to set up an African Monetary Fund. Mr Minister, how do you feel about this?

[Aurillac] My feelings are mixed. First, because if an African monetary fund is to be set up, many African currencies must be in much better shape than they are now. There is currently a franc zone covering 14 African and Indian Ocean countries. This zone provides real protection for the economies concerned. Thus protected against major speculative movements, the member-states can carry out their economic development. In fact, the franc zone has an impact on other countries. Other countries are knocking at the door seeking to be admitted. The CFA franc circulates extensively beyond the zone's borders and is used, to some extent, as a reserve currency for some African countries.

So, I think the franc zone example is a good one, but one should not, under the pretense of achieving something great, disrupt what is in existence and fail to achieve what one planned. [passage omitted] [end recording]

## ZAIRE

### Mobutu, Nguesso Hold Talks in Lome on Chad

*AB142226 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1806 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Lome, 14 Jan (AZAP) — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko and his Congolese counterpart, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, held a 1-hour talk in Lome today on bilateral and African questions, especially on the deterioration of the situation in Chad.

Concerning the Chadian problem, voices from many quarters are saying that the OAU has not shown enough commitment in this question.

The Congolese president, who is current OAU chairman, finds this allegation "inappropriate" because the pan-African organization has committed itself often on the Chadian question, he told the press after the talks.

To substantiate his assertion, he referred to the Lagos meeting, the conferences organized in his country on Chadian reconciliation, and the dispatch to Chad of troops from Congo, Zaire, Senegal, and Niger. No OAU summit can be held without the Chadian question being at the center of discussions.

On OAU initiatives, President Sassou-Nguesso recalled the decision at the last summit to reactivate the ad hoc committee on the Chadian-Libyan border conflict. Asked what he thinks about Libya's massive involvement in the deterioration of the situation in Chad, the current OAU chairman replied that Libyan involvement in Chad goes back a long time. It is the armed

clashes over the past few weeks that have sparked off the Chadian issue once more, he said, pointing out that in the past such heavy clashes had led to agreements between France and Libya, agreements that made it possible to establish the "red line" dividing Chad. These facts, he said, indicate that it is useless to treat this complex and important issue as a factual one. "We believe this issue must be treated in a serene and serious manner. Personally I prefer to engage in discussions and consultations with African leaders, as I have just done with President Mobutu."

He emphasized that on the Chadian issue there is a need to seek deep and long lasting solutions. Besides, I am striving to fulfill this task, he said. Asked whether he intended to visit Ndjamena and Tripoli soon to achieve this, he replied: "I have already visited the two capitals but will return if it is necessary."

### World Bank Releases $80 Million for Industry

*AB141717 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1413 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 14 Jan (AZAP) — The World Bank has just informed the Executive Council of the release on Monday, 12 January 1987, of an $80 million credit for the industrial sector. The first installment, totalling $40 million, was paid immediately.

The credit, which is at the disposal of the Zairian nationalbank, is designed to finance the import of raw materials, spare parts, and other industrial input to revive manufacturing and the agro-based industries of the private sector.

A joint delegation of the IMF and the World Bank has been in Kinshasa since last weekend to smooth out the technical aspects of the negotiations, which started in Washington last December on the occasion of the MPR founding chairman's working visit there.

Whenever the supreme interests of the nation are at stake, President Mobutu deems it necessary to take over management of the situation. He has brought the full weight of his personality to bear on the negotiations regarding the outline of new relations between Zaire and its partners.

There are evident signs that trust remains and is strengthening. Both sides will certainly find this gratifying.

## BENIN

### ANC Envoy Delivers Tambo Message for Kerekou

*AB141108 Cotonou Domestic Service in French*
*1930 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Text] Comrade Romain Vilon Guezo, the speaker of the Standing Committee of the National Revolutionary Assembly, this morning received in audience Brother Victor Matslu, the ANC representative to some West African countries, who came to deliver a message of friendship from ANC President Oliver Tambo to the head of state. Listen to Brother Victor Matslu disclosing the contents of his discussions to our reporter Jean Houelakoue.

[Begin Matslu recording in English fading into French translation] I was received by the interim head of state, whom I briefed at length on the current situation in our country, South Africa, concerning our fight against apartheid. We also discussed issues of bilateral cooperation. Of course, these discussions will not be the last, but rather we should continue them to find out how best your country can assist us. [end recording]

### Symposium Celebrates ANC Founding Anniversary

*AB141325 Cotonou Domestic Service in French*
*1930 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] The militant Beninese people, in solidarity with the South African people, yesterday celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of the ANC. A symposium was organized for this matter yesterday afternoon at the Culture and Arts Hall of Cotonou and was presided over by Comrade Gado Guiriguissou, chairman of the external relations commission of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, representing our great comrade-in-arms, Mathieu Kerekou. Apart from the central authorities of our party and revolutionary state, and the party's mass organizations, the National Federation of Workers Unions of Benin, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the Benin Revolutionary Youth Organization, and the Benin Revolutionary Women's Organization also attended. Victor Matslu, the SWAPO ambassador representing the ANC in West Africa, and the political and administrative authorities of Cotonou also were present. [passage omitted]

During the opening ceremony, the representatives of the party's mass organizations presented motions supporting the heroic struggle of the South African people and assured the ANC militants of support and solidarity. Later, Minister of Information and Communications Ali Hodou invited the SWAPO ambassador to address the participants. [passage omitted]

Victor Matslu denounced the attitude of Britain which, instead of assuming its responsibility, has used subterfuges to shirk it. According to the ANC representative, South Africa belongs to all those who live there, and therefore it is important to take their views on how to rule it into account. Today, despite the state of emergency, he further remarked, the situation in South Africa is such that one cannot imagine that the ANC has been banned. [passage omitted]

Comrade Gado Guiriguissou, representing the head of state, pointed out why our country was celebrating this anniversary and recalled ANC's history. He also called for the implementation of the conclusions reached at the Paris conference on apartheid and the economic sanctions taken by the United States against Pretoria. [passage omitted]

### DPRK Delegation Arrives; Cooperation Stressed

*AB142151 Cotonou Domestic Service in French*
*1930 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] A DPRK governmental delegation began a friendly visit to our country this afternoon.

The delegation is led by DPRK Vice President Comrade Yi Chong-ok, and was welcomed on arrival by Comrade Romain Vilon Guezo, the speaker of the Revolutionary National Assembly. [passage omitted]

In a statement to newsmen, the Korean delegation expressed its gratitude to the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, to the government, and the Beninese people for the warm welcome they received. The Korean and Beninese peoples are today joining hands and cooperating after being exploited and oppressed by imperialist forces at one time. The statement also referred to the recent discussions held by great leader Kim Il-song with our great comrade-in-arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, during his visit to Korea. [passage omitted]

## BURKINA FASO

### Lingani Returns, Discusses Cancelled Summit

*AB141549 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French*
*1300 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Minister of Popular Defense Jean-Baptiste Lingani just arrived from Lome, where he represented our country at the 20th anniversary celebration of the coming to power of President Gnassignbe Eyadema. Comrade Lingani talked to the press and reviewed the reasons why he made the trip.

[Begin recording] [Lingani] Indeed, we have just returned from Lome, where we represented Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of Burkina Faso, at the 20th anniversary of the coming to power of President Eyadema. It was a national celebration, the national day of a neighboring country, and we could not be absent from this celebration. The celebration, in our opinion, was a success. Furthermore, my delegation, an important nine-man delegation, was warmly welcomed and our sojourn was very pleasant.

The important thing about our mission is that we delivered written and oral messages from President Thomas Sankara to General Eyadema. Through him, we also extended a friendly and fraternal message to all the Togolese people.

In addition, while in Lome, we conveyed a message of friendship, brotherhood, and cooperation to the other delegations which were in Lome, especially to the African heads of state [words indis-

tinct] who were in Lome. I can even tell you that the stay was (?very) pleasant and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Togolese authorities and all the Togolese people.

[Reporter] Comrade Minister, it seems that you were not expected in Lome. How do you explain this?

[Lingani] It is wrong to say we were not expected. [words indistinct] We would not have gone to Togo if there had not been an agreement between the two countries. Presidents Sankara and Eyadema held telephone discussions about the celebration and about our visit [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Comrade Minister, a certain section of the media alleges that the Yamoussoukro summit was not held because Burkina Faso had an explosive dossier to discuss at the summit. What do you think about this?

[Lingani] As you say, the so-called explosive dossier that the press has referred to [words indistinct] an (?alibi) used by Burkina Faso in order not to attend the Yamoussoukro meeting, which is (?not true). You must know that Burkina Faso is always ready to attend any meeting with President Eyadema, as well as with the presidents of other friendly and brotherly countries, because the questions (?on the agenda) of the Yamoussoukro summit are those of security. We Burkinabe have always upheld the search for security for all. During my stay in Lome, I conveyed this message to President Eyadema — that is, President Sankara is always ready to meet with President Eyadema to coordinate their views on security. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

## GHANA

### Japan Grants Loan for Rice, Farm Equipment

*AB142008 Accra Domestic Service in English*
*1800 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Ghana and Japan today signed two separate agreements to cover 334 million cedis of Japanese grants in support of the government's economic recovery program. The first grant of 156 million cedis will be used to purchase rice from Burma. The second grant, valued at 178 million cedis, will be used to purchase fertilizers, agricultural chemicals and machinery, and vehicles for the Asutsuare Irrigation Project and the Volta Regional Agricultural Development Project, VORADEP, to boost food production. The first grant is valid between now and March this year, while the second one will last until January next year. The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and the Japanese ambassador to Ghana, Mr Kazuaki Arichi, signed the accords.

## LIBERIA

### Shultz To Meet Doe; Press Boycotts Conference

*AB141731 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English*
*1710 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, has arrived in Monrovia on the last leg of his 6-nation African tour south of the Sahara. The U.S. secretary of state and Mrs Shultz were met upon arrival at the Roberts International Airport by Foreign Minister J. Bernard Blamo and other high-ranking Liberian Government officials. Mr Shultz was expected to hold talks with President Samuel Kanyon Doe this afternoon at the Executive Mansion on economic matters affecting Liberia as well as bilateral and international issues. Details of their meeting have not been released.

During the arrival ceremony at the Roberts International Airport, members of the press were not allowed to get closer to Mr Shultz as they were kept to a distance, well away from the U.S. secretary of state. In another development, a press conference scheduled to be given by Mr Shultz was not given full coverage by the Liberian press due to tight security measures and lack of accreditation. A sizeable number of journalists representing the Liberian press walked out of the U.S. Embassy premises where the press conference was due to take place as a result of the measures which included a search dog. Many reporters protested strongly against the fact that the dog was made to search their personal belongings.

The visit has already taken Mr Shultz to Senegal, Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya, and the Ivory Coast.

## MALI

### Traore, Libyan Envoy Discuss Cooperation, Chad

*AB141536 Bamako Domestic Service in French*
*1500 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] This afternoon at 1400, General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic, received Libyan envoy Ali al-Turayki, Libyan ambassador to the United Nations, who presented him with a message from Colonel Mu'mmar al-Qadhdhafi. Their meeting centered on bilateral cooperation between the two countries and on ways of strengthening their ties. They also discussed the situation in Chad and developments in the conflict, a conflict which naturally is a source of preoccupation for the world, and especially for the OAU. Gen Moussa Traore underlined the need to strive for peace and stability in Chad. [passage omitted]

### Contract for Sugar Plant Signed With PRC

*AB141250 Bamako Domestic Service in French*
*0700 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Mali and China signed a contract for the renovation of the sugarcane processing plant of the (Kala Superieure) region yesterday at the Ministry of Agriculture. Under the contract, extension works will be carried out at the two sugarcane processing plants to raise their daily processing capacity to approximately 2,000 tons of sugarcane. To this end, the technological equipment will be entirely reviewed. Furthermore, the necessary equipment for refining sugar will be acquired to connect it to the Selifeli plant to enable it to refine an additional 150 tons of sugar per day.

## NIGERIA

### Foreign Minister Praises U.S. Policy on RSA

*NC141959 Paris AFP in English 1943 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Lagos, Jan 14 (AFP) — U.S. policies towards South Africa have substantially improved, Nigerian Foreign Minister Bolaji Akinyemi said here on Wednesday in a statement commenting on a visit by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz two days before.

Mr. Akinyemi said the 10-hour visit, part of Mr. Shultz's six-nation African tour, had been "fruitful and cordial." He said the gap between the South African policies of the United States and Nigeria had narrowed.

"If you look where we stood in October, we were for mandatory economic sanctions. They were not," he said. "By November there was a law in place, even more draconian than any that can come out of Europe."

"In October, they were still talking about the ANC (African National Congress) in very disparaging terms — and now, there is a public statement recognizing the ANC as one of the actors in South Africa, and Secretary of State Shultz is going to meet with Oliver Tambo," the ANC's president, he continued.

"They (the Americans) have called for the release of Nelson Mandela, and I don't know how many American firms have withdrawn from South Africa," he added.

Nigerian policy, however, has not changed, according to Mr. Akinyemi. "We've been right all along."

Mr. Shultz is now in Liberia on the last day of his tour.

### Akinyemi Cited on Shultz Security Agents

*AB150906 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Nigeria is to evolve contingency plans to deal with unexpected behavior by foreign security agents during visits by top officials from other countries.

The need for such plans followed a number of incidents during the visit of the U.S. secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, on Monday in which American security agents were said to have usurped the duties of their Nigerian counterparts. The Americans were reported to have against protocol erected a barricade at Murtala Mohamed Airport and prevented Nigerian journalists from covering Mr Shultz' arrival.

The minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, said in Lagos yesterday that extensive talks were held between officials of both countries before the visit and an agreement was reached on the role of each group of officials.

He agreed that certain events occurred outside the agreement and that Nigerian security men behaved with maturity to avoid confrontation which he said would not have done Nigeria's image any good. The minister, however, emphasized that the position of the Federal Government was that Nigeria's sovereignty should not be taken for granted. Professor Akinyemi said Nigeria did not intend to protest officially on the issue to the U.S. Government.

### Soviet Union To Aid Economic Recovery Program

*AB141715 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT Jan 87*

[Text] The Soviet Union says it is prepared to help Nigeria out of its current economic problems. The country's ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Yuriy Kuplyakov, gave an indication in Lagos today in an interview with a Radio Nigeria correspondent.
Mr Kuplyakov said that a number of proposals have been made to Federal Government and his country was expecting the response from the government.

## ANGOLA

### RSA Allegations of Military Buildup 'Calumnies'

*MB141421 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] The South African Government has accused the People's Republic of Angola, with the USSR's direct and massive collaboration, of threatening South Africa's security and territorial integrity. South Africa's borders are about 2,000 km from Angola's southernmost boundary. According to the racist South African authorities, Angola has built a sophisticated military device some 300 km from the border with Namibia, which South Africa continues to occupy illegally. This device is alleged to have been built with direct and massive USSR collaboration. The Pretoria government has also said that the ANC is controlled by the USSR. In this regard, ANGOP states that when the United States seeks direct intervention in any region of the world it uses the so-called communist threat pretext.

ANGOP notes that, by the look of things, South Africa and the CIA — which claim to have made the discovery — will one day accuse South Africa's black population of receiving from the Soviet Union the stones and objects with which they face the South African police and army daily. In its commentary, ANGOP notes that these tactics by Pretoria seek pretexts for direct U.S. intervention in southern Africa and the People's Republic of Angola in particular. These calumnies by the South African authorities are also intended to divert the attention of the South African people and the international community from the fact that the Pretoria regime is developing nuclear systems. It uses isolated areas as testing grounds.

### Dos Santos Receives GDR Justice Minister

*MB141352 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Republic, received Hans Heusinger, GDR minister of justice, at Futungo de Belas in Luanda this morning. Hans Heusinger arrived in Angola yesterday. Angola's Minister of Justice Fernando Franca van Dunem attended the audience. Approximately an hour earlier, the GDR official was received by Juliao Mateus Paulo, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for state and judicial organs.

Official talks between the two justice ministers began yesterday, 45 minutes after the GDR official's arrival in Luanda. It should be noted that at the beginning of the talks yesterday, the Angolan minister of justice spoke about increased imperialist activity to destabilize the peoples and governments of southern Africa through direct interference in the internal affairs of southern African countries. He said Angola's sovereignty as a democratic people's state is evidenced by contacts with other countries with the intention of increasing friendship and solidarity, which have always characterized our relations at various levels. In turn, Hans Heusinger criticized U.S. policy, which runs counter to the interests of the peoples, and defended the Soviet Union's peace proposals.

### French Officials Reportedly Visit UNITA Base

*MB150717 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] The Angolan resistance movement, UNITA, says three French parliamentarians recently visited the UNITA base in Angola and met the movement's leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi. In a statement released in Lisbon, UNITA said the parliamentarians who visited UNITA-controlled areas of Angola between the 4th and 10th of this month were Mr (Willy de Mellion), Mr (Daniel Colin), and Mr (Gill de Robian). They are all members of the French Republican Party which is part of France's ruling coalition. It wasn't disclosed whether the visit was official or private.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### Rebels Claim To Hold Italian Missionaries

*AU141141 Paris AFP in English 0314 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 14 (AFP) — The Mozambican rebel movement disclosed here Tuesday that it had captured seven Italian missionaries and a Portuguese nun in Eambezia Province. Renamo (Mozambique National Resistance) Spokesman Paulo Oliveira told AFP that three priests taken at Mualama on December 13 would soon be sent out of the country. Their release had been held up because rivers in the region were in full spate, he said.

The other four missionaries, caught at Naoela and Mucubela at the beginning of the year, intended to stay put in rebel-held territory. "All these missionaries are not regarded as hostages by our movement," Mr. Oliveira said. "Those who wish to stay with us have full freedom of movement in the zones we control."

He added that a Portuguese aid worker and his wife and child, captured in an attack on January 2 at Monapo, ought shortly to be able to leave.

Mozambique's state news agency meanwhile reported that the army had destroyed Renamo's main base in Niasa, the northernmost province bordering Tanzania. The attack on December 29 left eight rebels killed and saw the seizure of a large amount of arms and ammunition, the agency said. It added that 300 peasants forced to live under Renamo control had been freed.

### Army Frees Nearly 3,000 Peasants in 1986

*MB141841 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Units of the Mozambican army stationed in one district of northern Nampula Province freed nearly 3,000 peasants from bandit captivity during operations last year. The army praised the people in Mogovolas District. Local commander Lieutenant Edelvino Mortal said during 1986, the army also destroyed four bases and three camps of the terrorists in Mogovolas District. During the operations, large quantities of war materiel were seized, including grenades, mortar shells, and 1,200 rounds of ammunition. The peasants who were then freed from the captiv-

ity of South Africa's MNR bandits are now being integrated into productive roles.

## NAMIBIA

### THE NAMIBIAN Editor Interviewed on Clashes

*MB141243 London BBC World Service in English 0709 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[From the "24 hours" program]

[Text] South Africa has reported new clashes in Namibia between the South African defense force and guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO. Fifty-six guerrillas reportedly lost their lives in fighting, which spread from northern Namibia into Angola, while six South African soldiers are said to have been killed. SWAPO has been engaged in a struggle for the independence of Namibia for some 20 years; so when John Eidinow called Gwen Lister, the editor of *The Namibian*, he began by asking how significant these clashes were in the context of the continuing war.

[Begin recording] [Lister] Essentially, as far as most Namibians are concerned, there is nothing particularly newsworthy about this latest series of clashes between the SADF and SWAPO in southern Angola. I think ever since the war between SWAPO and the South African defense force has been going on, since 1966 and especially in the later half of 1970's into the 1980's, South Africa has on many, many occasions been into Angola, either on major military operations or on what they call hot pursuit raids of SWAPO insurgents. I think as far as local people are concerned, this incident isn't anything out of the ordinary.

[Eidinow] The local South African army has been sounding very optimistic recently, because it is containing, even defeating SWAPO.

[Lister] This is a matter that there is a lot of debate about. The defense force, just about on an annual basis, makes the claim that SWAPO, militarily that is, is dead. But every year there is usually the rainy season offensive, so generally the question people ask is: If SWAPO is dead militarily and its bases in southern Angola have been wiped out, then where do they keep coming from?

[Eidinow] You've been describing a fairly regular sequence of clashes over the years between the South African forces and SWAPO. Where is all this leaving the political situation in Namibia?

[Lister] Well, essentially I think the military efforts, should one say, to contain SWAPO militarily are in concert with the attempts here inside Namibia to establish an interim government, which essentially consists of parties which are opposed to the implementation of the United Nations settlement plan in an effort to bring about an internal settlement in Namibia and to exclude SWAPO. Of course I think the South African rationale is that, if they defeat SWAPO militarily, then they aren't really a force to be reckoned with. So I think the two, both internal and external strikes militarily against SWAPO, go hand in hand, because if they could defeat SWAPO militarily then they wouldn't be a great threat to the interim government inside Namibia.

[Eidinow] At the same time the South African Government (?is not) very happy with the interim government, the new transitional government?

[Lister] Yes, well, this is the case. I think possibly they expected too much and yet too little from this interim government. I think the government, since it has been in power, has really made very little or brought about very little change in Namibia itself. The population are growing more and more disillusioned with this government by the day, and I think the South Africans are well aware of this. At the same time the government, although not pleasing the majority of the black population in Namibia, are going too far for the majority of the whites, because they have been talking about open schools and such like. I think South Africa, especially with the prospects of elections in March or April this year, don't want any move toward change in Namibia, because of fears of a white backlash among their own electorate in South Africa. [end recording].

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Deputy Information Minister Defends Press Curbs

*MB141110 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1830 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Interview with Deputy Information Minister Stoffel van der Merwe by Ormonde Pollock of the *Natal Mercury*, Johan Vosloo of *Rapport*, and moderator Freek Robinson of the SABC, in Cape Town, on the "Network" program presented by John Bishop in Johannesburg — live]

[Text] [Bishop] As I am sure you know, the portfolio of information has traditionally been a hot one. Well, in his first comprehensive television interview since his appointment as deputy minister for information, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe faces a panel of journalists tonight, in Network. Joining us live from Cape Town is our political correspondent, Freek Robinson.

[Robinson] Thank you very much, John. It is good to hear your voice again. You seem to be your old witty self. I just want to introduce our guests tonight here. Apart from the minister, we have next to me Ormonde Pollock from the *Natal Mercury*, and Mr Johan Vosloo of *Rapport*. Now, over to the minister. Doctor, it seems to me that as John has said, your portfolio is a fairly hot one. We have had two media curbs in a month. Where do you plan to go? Where do you plan to end? What is the goal?

[Van der Merwe] The goal is a fully democratic society in South Africa, and therefore the emergency regulations and the press curbs are abnormal measures if one has a goal such as that. Therefore, we would like to end the press curbs as well as the state of emergency as soon as possible. There is nobody in the government that likes these curbs, but they are necessary at this particular point in time, in order to restore a degree of normality under which democracy can develop.

[Robinson] Yes, Ormonde?

[Pollock] Sorry, Doctor, you know, lofty ideas, true democracy and all that — I do not think a true democratic system can support the kind of press curbs that we have had recently. You are the man who is responsible for information, communication. How can you justify a situation where I cannot ask you certain questions here tonight without the risk of being picked up by the police outside when we leave the set here tonight?

[Van der Merwe] It is unfortunately so, that we live in abnormal times, and therefore we have to have abnormal rules for the game, because the rules of the game are not normal at the moment.

[Pollock] Yes, but doctor, I must ask you here then: If the situation is so abnormal, do you think by banning references to banned organizations — I am not even sure I can mention some of the names here tonight — but do you think by banning all reference to these organizations, they are going to disappear? They have a network underground operating right throughout the country. People know and hear about them all the time. Don't you think it is better to let people know your enemy, rather than to shut them out from all sorts of information?

[Van der Merwe] I think it is an established principle of this type of struggle, where you have a revolutionary movement trying to take over the power through a violent revolution, that they thrive on publicity. It is so that they also have alternative methods of communication, but they cannot do without publicity, and this is the way in which they misuse the normal freedom of democracy to obtain the publicity which is so essential for them. By denying them this publicity, one makes life much more difficult for them.

[Robinson] Could we give Johan Vosloo an opportunity?

[Vosloo] Well, I would like to know, minister — you know, one of the accusations against the press, certain members of the press, certain sections, is that they lack in responsible reporting. How would you define responsible reporting? How do you see it in these days?

[Van der Merwe] I think what we are trying to prevent — and now, this is what I think is the answer to your question — is that people propagate and give publicity to movements who have got no democracy at the back of their minds and, in fact, who use the most undemocratic methods, like intimidation and killing of people, in order to arrive at their goals. I think if publicity is given to those people, or if their goals are being promoted, then that is definitely, from a democratic point of view, highly irresponsible reporting.

[Vosloo] The whole idea of good reporting, or responsible reporting, is balanced reporting. Now, would you say that the reports we are now allowed to print in the papers is balanced reporting on what is happening now in South Africa?

[Van der Merwe] A balanced report, of course, very often exists only in the mind of the adjudicator, in the sense that what one person would regard as a balanced report would not of necessity be regarded as such by the other. And if one tries to...

[Vosloo, interrupting] Giving both sides of the story?

[Van der Merwe] Giving both sides, you see, but you can always give the one side in a much more convincing way than the other side. Then, technically, if you have any sort of technical measurement of what balanced is, then this can be circumvented very easily.

[Vosloo] But as it stands now, we are 100 percent dependent on Pretoria for our information on the unrest.

[Van der Merwe] True. Or, I mean, partially true, in fact; because it is only certain facets of information that are under restriction. The view, or the principle, is not to deny information, and that is why the essential information is still supplied through press releases of the government.

[Robinson] But still, minister, if I could just get in here, still the accusation is there that the government is actually the censor — your department — and that we are only allowed to hear what you deem fit that we can hear, or what you cannot really conceal.

[Van der Merwe] I am very glad you made this statement, because...

[Robinson, interrupting] I asked a question. [general laughter]

[Van der Merwe] This question, because it reveals, or it points to, a very popular misconception, that the Bureau for Information, in fact, acts as a censor. There is no way in which the Bureau for Information does that. What happens is that, regarding the release of unrest information, we act as spokesman for the government, in the sense that the information garnered and released by other departments to us is then given through to the press. Under the latest press restrictions we have set up a center to assist the media, because the regulations say that certain categories of information can only be published if it is approved, or if it is a statement by a minister or a spokesman, or if it is approved by a minister or spokesman. We assist the members of the press, if they so wish, to obtain the statements and approvals. We do not censor information.

[Pollock] You do have indirect censorship and, as Johan says, we are dependent on Pretoria — either the bureau or some other government department — for the sort of news are allowed to publish in terms of the restrictions that we have at the moment. Pretoria censors the news. Whether you get it in a censored form or not, that is not, possibly, your problem, but the fact remains: Pretoria decides what the average South African is going to hear or to see.

[Van der Merwe] Again, it concerns only a limited section of information.

[Pollock] A very vital section.

[Van der Merwe] I agree, it is a very important section. The aim is not to put a blanket on such information.

[Pollock] But we have a blanket on that information right now, as far as banned organizations are concerned. Right now, the

people in South Africa are not allowed to read what is the standpoint of the ANC vis-a-vis South Africa or a social, democratic, or whatever situation we have. That is controlled by the press curbs.

[Van der Merwe] But the ban on statements by unlawful organizations have actually been in place for a very long time.

[Pollock] We are not necessarily talking about statements by them. If you want to know, if you want to make up your mind, a rational decision, you need all the facts available to you. We cannot publish, today, what the ANC's policy is in terms of the economy of the country.

[Van der Merwe] Again, I think that has been the case for many years. Whether you agree with it or not, it is true, in fact that publications by, and statements by, unlawful organizations such as from which you would garner this information, have been prohibited for many years. So, the latest press curbs have got nothing to do with that. The only thing which is actually prohibited is to promote the aims or the image of such organizations.

[Pollock] If we were to publish what their strategy is in terms of the economy or anything else, we could be charged with furthering the aims of a banned organization. We are not furthering the aims; we simply want to inform people. This is what you are dealing with. Now we are not allowed to do that.

[Van der Merwe] Again, I think it is definitely so, that this type of publication, where you say this and that and that are the aims of this organization, has been under restriction for many years; fair enough. Lately, there was a growing disregard of the previous restrictions; and what we have created now is a situation almost back to normal, in that particular regard ...

[Pollock, interrupting] No, I couldn't agree with you on that.

[Van der Merwe] But the point is that, you know, I don't think we should fall into a discussion of individual statements, whether they are allowed or not, because that is in fact not my function.

[Pollock] The point is this: You are suggesting that, because it is not so different, the situation is almost back to where it was. I don't think that in democratic terms, and in a country that professes to have a free press, the fact that you've had curbs for many years doesn't make it right at all. [sentence as heard]

[Van der Merwe] I just wanted to differentiate from the previous situation, which was regarded as a normal situation, more or less, and...

[Pollock, interrupting] Not by the press; maybe by the government; but certainly not by the press.

[Van der Merwe] If I can just make the point, it is that there is no doubt that the aims, and especially the means, of these organizations are profoundly undemocratic. I don't see, in a society which is vulnerable because it goes through a period of reform that one should allow free play to people who are obviously undemocratic in their means.

[Robinson] Alright, could I just move on from here. Mr Vosloo, if you want to ask a question, we have an election in front of us. Now, if we can talk about the curbs on politicians during the election campaign, do you want to ask...

[Volsoo, interrupting] May I ask just only one short one. Was there a notable decline in the unrest since the restriction on the press, and was it mainly due to the restrictions, or how would you see it?

[Van der Merwe] I think the period which we are dealing with is too short for me to come to firm conclusions yet. But it is so that over the past month, there has been a much lower rate of unrest than one could have expected.

[Vosloo] Wouldn't the government be tempted to keep those press curbs after we reach normality? Won't you say that? It worries us.

[Van der Merwe] Yes, surely, I can see that it worries you...

[Vosloo, interrupting] Because they can argue that if it was not for the press curbs...

[Van der Merwe, interrupting] One can point to many cases in history where powers once taken were then indifinitely kept. But I can give you the assurance that the view inside the government is profoundly democratic, and there is no one — even though sometimes at NP congresses we cross swords with the press — there is no one who welcomes this inherent...

[Pollock, interrupting] All right, if, as you say, that the incidence of unrest and school burnings and buses being bottled, or whatever, has diminished, why then maintain a state of emergency, because that was the original reason given for introducing the state of emergency, according to Mr Roelf Meyer. Now, if what you say is correct, that the incidence of unrest has now come down, why not then undo the state of emergency, and let us get back to normality and democracy without press curbs?

[Van der Merwe] Well, one could equally argue that if you would lift the press curbs and the state of emergency, that would then go back to the previous state of violence. So, what you have to do in fact is, once you have reduced the state of violence and unrest, then one has to tackle the problems that exist in the community itself. Once a better climate has been created in the community itself, so that democracy can function as normal again, then one can lift these curbs — which does not mean that it need to be a very long time.

[Pollock] I thnk you have struck on an important point here; that by improving the climate and conditions in which people live, I think what you are really saying is that government policy and attention to these people over the years has been contributive to the kind of unrest situation we have right now; that possibly the government should do a little bit more in terms of political policies to reduce the kind of unrest that is welling up in the country.

[Van der Merwe] I think the factors that created the initial situation were not solely due to government, you know, the

responsibility of the government. There are many factors, like urbanization, and a myriad of things also, sanctions, and so forth, that contribute to this. But look, the point is that you have a society in change. Therefore, this is why the government is busy with a reform policy; and in fact the government is pressing ahead as best it can under these circumstances with a variety of reforms. Not the type of reform which makes the front pages, but the type of reform that actually improves the conditions of the person in the street.

[Robinson] Doctor Van der Merwe, could we just ask this one question now: Talk about your freedom. We have been talking about our freedom, or the restriction of our freedom. Let us talk about your freedom. If you go out now, in the election campaign, and you want to talk about what is happening in the country, and you want to explain it to the electorate, you want to say this and this is happening, this and this is what we are doing — can you do it?

[Van der Merwe] First, I think the basic principle behind this is that it is supposed or intended to limit the undemocratic part of the political activity in the country. It has never been intended to limit the democratic part of the process, and one can actually distinguish these two processes in South Africa — a democratic part and an undemocratic part. I think the limitation on the democratic part at this point is not so huge. In fact, if it proves that there are real problems in that regard, then I am pretty sure that we will have a further look at it. You must remember that ...

[Robinson, interrupting] Are you going to look at it?

[Van der Merwe] At the time when the emergency regulations were introduced, there was no election in the offing. So, the announcement of an election has changed the circumstances. I assume that the relevant departments will then look at the emergency regulations again in the light of the changed circumstances. But, unfortunately, I cannot comment further on that, because it is not my department's province.

[Pollock] But do you thing there will be exemptions for politicians to say, and media to report, at public meetings, what are presently banned by the present media curbs? Will there be an exemption on that level? I don't think you can fight an election with half your mouth closed.

[Van der Merwe] No, I would just want to answer it in this way again; that is to say, that the intention of the government is most certainly not to hamper the democratic process of an election. We will look at that. But, you know, what actually will come out of that is something which I cannot say at this moment. The only thing that I can say again is that there is no intention to hamper an election.

[Vosloo] And what about parliament, parliamentary debate? If, say the UDF use the opposition — and it could easily happen — use the opposition in parliament, and they use them to convey certain news to the public: are we allowed to print those stories?

[Pollock] There is a ruling by the speaker on that.

[Vosloo] Is there?

[Robinson] Well, let us hear Doctor Van der Merwe.

[Van der Merwe] Again, the regulations are not supposed to hamper the democratic process, and the normal parliamentary privileges will remain intact. But then, again, I think the judgment would be whether a particular piece of journalism promotes the cause of an undemocratic organization, and that would be the final test.

[Pollock] But I do think that a free press is part of the democratic system. The MP's might have the power, or be allowed to say what they want to within the privilege of parliament. Will the press still be allowed to report what they say in parliament? I think that is a very basic, fundamental part of democracy.

[Van der Merwe] I think what will be the case there... [Van der Merwe changes thought] Again, I am not a legal expert and it is not my job to look at restrictions, but rather to look at ways and means to facilitate the flow of information. Of course, either way, I have to be au fait with this. But again there I think the two principles — one of parliamentary freedom and the other hand of not promoting the aims of an unlawful organization I think those two principles will have to be balanced, one against the other...

[Pollock, interrupting] You know, promoting the aims of unlawful organizations ... [Pollock changes thought] The Smith government tried to ban all mention of Mugabe's party, of Nkomo's party, or a variety of other parties, and in good old Afrikaans: Kyk how Lyk hulle nou. [look at them now]

[Van der Merwe] Yes, but I think you will admit that that is not the extent to which the government has gone in this regard. In fact, we try to keep the restrictions on the press as low as possible, under a particular set of circumstances, because we know that a free press is essential for the proper functioning of a democracy.

[Pollock] Except right now we are not free. There are about 100 laws which govern what we can do and what we can say, apart from the most recent press curbs. We are certainly not a free press.

[Van der Merwe] That may be so, but I don't think the press anywhere in the world is totally free. You know, total freedom is actually licence, you see, so it is a matter of degree. What you should bear in mind is that if one has censorship, actual censorship, then no paper is allowed to publish anything which is not approved by the government.

[Robisnon] And will you get there? Is it possible that we can get there?

[Van der Merwe] Well, I can't judge what is possible. But I just want to point out that we are far, far away from that, in the sense that the press can publish anything except the things that have been mentioned and excepted. Fair enough, this body which is exempted from the press freedom has grown over the past time, in response to the needs of the situation, again with lots of restraint on the side of the government.

[Robinson] I am very sorry to interrupt you, gentlemen, but

unfortunately now our time is gone. We are already a little bit over our time. So thank you very much for joining us tonight, my two colleagues from the press here, and thank you very much Dr Van der Merwe. I am sure that we will have some later time to follow on our discussion tonight.

## Malan Interviewed on 75th Anniversary of SADF

*MB151009 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Interview with Minister of Defense General Magnus Malan by Kolie van Koller on the "Network" program, introduced by Bettie Kemp; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Kemp] The SADF will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year. Since its establishment in 1912, the SADF has never been beaten. Kolie van Koller spoke to the minister of defense, General Malan, earlier.

[Van Koller] General, the SADF will be 75 years old this year and we are aware of social functions under preparation and parades.

[Malan] The history of the SADF will be highlighted together with that of the Republic of South Africa because the SADF belongs to South Africa. Its 75th anniversary will be celebrated. The SADF consists of members of all racial groups. There are commandos, civil defense, and national servicemen. In other words, it is actually a national defense force, a defense force which belongs to the South African public.

[Van Koller] What do you mean by the term national?

[Malan] There are actually four fundamental tasks that I would like to mention. In the first place, the SADF is there to provide a service for all South Africa's inhabitants. It is an instrument of the government of the day. In this connection I would like to refer to its illustrious record in two world wars, in Korea, service in the South-West African operational area, in natural disasters — in other words, a service for all South Africans. The second task is security. This includes the physical protection of South Africa's inhabitants threatened by terrorism and radicalism. Therefore, the SADF is present in certain residential areas. The third aspect is human relations. The SADF is committed to, and is trained, in good human relations. The fourth task — the SADF has a proud professional record. Its service is not of a political nature; it is professional. That is why it protects development processes in society so that peace and stability can be maintained. That is why the SADF is a service-providing instrument of the government of the day. It is there for security, good relations, and it has a proud professional record.

[Van Koller] General, you speak of a proud record.

[Malan] Indeed, a proud fighting record. I refer to the two world wars, and the war in Korea in which the SADF was extremely successful. The SADF has never been beaten in the war in South-West Africa, where it has been fighting for the past 20 years. I doubt if there is any other defense force in the world which has such a record. Our fighting record shows the caliber of our men and women who serve in the force. Our forces are well-trained and well-equipped. I want to thank all those who served in the SADF during the past 75 years on behalf of South Africa.

[Van Koller] The war in South-West Africa has been very costly. Is it worth it to continue the war?

[Malan] You know, the security, the lives of people, their survival, cannot be measured in material terms. The security on which peace is built cannot be measured in financial terms. In addition to the security of South-West Africans, the SADF also maintains additional infrastructures such as stability and development which make their existence much more meaningful. An example is the progress made in the development of the Bushmen, the Kavangos, and the Ovambos. If one looks at the progress made, then it is apparent that it is a meaningful investment.

[Van Koller] General, may I talk about South Africa's weapons industry. Has South Africa the necessary weapons to defend itself?

[Malan] You know, ironically, the United Nations in the late seventies imposed a total arms boycott against South Africa. Member countries were banned from exporting weapons to South Africa. But today, as a result of South Africa's self-suffiency in weaponry, that same organization is asking its member states not to buy weapons from South Africa. In other words, we have changed from a wapons importing country into a weapons exporting country, as South Africa is at the moment. Now the United Nations wants to forbid the export of arms from this country. You know the Republic of South Africa, especially the SADF and Armscor [Armaments Development and Production Corporation] have taken up the challenge, under the leadership of the state president, to produce weapons. In other words, today we supply the SADF with weapons and also export them. Incidentally, South Africa is also a leader in the production of certain weapons systems in the world.

[Van Koller] There are accusations that South Africa is destabilizing its neighbors. What is the real situation?

[Malan] This must be seen in the context of South Africa's position in southern Africa, and against the background of its role as a regional power — a responsibility that must be put in proper perspective. We would like to share our skills with our neighbors. We would like to have ambitious neighbors and we are prepared to help them. Therefore, we set a high price on peace and stability, and a situation free of threats. You must remember that the SADF is not a plunderer. We do not want to invade neighboring states. The government has repeatedly said that South Africa has no expanionist policies. On the contrary, we are striving for security, peace, and prosperity. What do the Cubans want in this subcontinent? They do not belong here. At the same time, in our striving for peace South Africa cannot allow the enemies — the Moscow-controlled SACP, the ANC — to operate freely from neighboring states. We also cannot allow these cowardly criminals to plan acts of terror in neighboring states and execute them in South Africa against innocent people. South Africa has the right to deploy the SADF against those who are threatening our security.

[Van Koller] Can we talk about the national servicemen who are the backbone of any defense force?

[Malan] I am very proud and I have confidence in the youth of our country. The national servicemen are representative of the youth of South Africa. I must tell you that they are well-motivated, disciplined, and very loyal to South Africa. They are prepared to sacrifice their lives. They are a proud asset of the SADF. On behalf of the public of South Africa, I would like to take the opportunity to thank every national serviceman, his parents and next-of-kin.

## ANC's Tambo Calls for Unity of Black Youth

*EA141130 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 13 Jan 87*

[Report on New Year's message from the National Executive Committee of the ANC delivered by ANC President Oliver Tambo; place, date not given -- passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] (?Compatriots), the recent (?national) decision calling on the students to return to their classes once again pointed to the central role that the youth and students of our country are playing in our struggle for freedom. The heroism they have displayed over so many months has forced (?the regime) to give ground on many issues. It is because of their bravery that the National Executive Committee [NEC] of the ANC has honored them with the name of the Young Lions.

[Tambo] "The students and working youth [words indistinct] have once more confirmed their place in our [words indistinct]. These relentless fighters for a South Africa that we can proudly call our own have throughout this past year swelled the ranks of the mass movement by joining the struggle in hundreds of thousands. Despite the campaign of murder and terror unleashed by the racists against them [words indistinct], they have stood firm in their demands. They have refused to break from the ranks of the struggling masses. In saluting our students and working youth, we can only say that they have earned for themselves [words indistinct]. In their actions, supported and reinforced by the workers, they have forced the apartheid regime to give ground on many issues. To build on these advances, we must ensure that the education (?platform) becomes a common platform of teachers, parents and students in the mass struggle for a democratic [words indistinct]."

President Tambo continued to say that for the youth to be stronger and (?to be in a) position to accomplish the tasks ahead, it has to be strengthened. In its New Year message, the NEC of the ANC stresses the need for the entire democratic movement of our people to ensure that [words indistinct] are in fact strengthened.

[Tambo] "For the (?tasks) ahead, the mass organizations of the youth must be strengthened from the base upwards, from local units to nationwide [words indistinct]. Of national importance is the need [words indistinct] of raising the quality of the leadership of the youth, to impart to them the skills that are necessary for them to carry out their tasks, as the shock troops of the revolution. It is also vital that we further reinforce the unity of the black youth as a whole and strengthen the integration of the youths' struggle within the broad democratic movement."

In giving directives to the youth, President Oliver Tambo says it must always work with the people, be a part of the entire democratic movement and subordinate itself to the decisions democratically arrived at by the whole movement.

[Tambo] "To the youth, the Young Lions of our revolutionary struggle, [words indistinct]. Dear comrades, you, who have paid such a high price to bring us to where we are today, have a responsibility to fight on with the same boldness, bravery, and determination that you have shown. You are right to be impatient for victory. We are gratified at the fact that all those who share a common interest in liberation (?do) not with the same [word indistinct] that you have displayed. (?You are right) to demand victory now. The victory we seek is one that will be brought about by our people as a whole, in the interests of the entire people.

"(?In part) you must, therefore, act as the (?yeast) to energize and dynamize the people as a whole and act together with and not separate from them. You must act as a disciplined revolutionary force which can move ahead if need be but is at the same time committed to the strategic and [words indistinct] (?tactics) of united mass action, (?as we see) from militant but uncoordinated action by different groups at different times and places. Therefore, you have a responsibility to seek unity and to work for unity. You must be the best representatives of democratic (?practice) within your own organizations and in the mass movement at large. We are fighting to have a people's government, elected by and accountable to the people. Our organization must assume the same character. In our conduct, we must never seem to be acting contrary to the understanding of what the masses of the people see as their interest. These are the guidelines that must instruct our behavior [words indistinct] and the educational crisis."

On the issue of education the NEC of the ANC characterized this education crisis as a national issue which needs the attention of the whole democratic movement and not the students alone. President Tambo also explained that to our students, their schools, colleges and universities are not merely institute of learning but they are a (?recruiting) ground where the students will organize themselves for future battles.

[Tambo] "[Words indistinct] that it is a national issue requiring the united action of the students, teachers and parents, indeed united attention of the entire revolutionary movement. [Words indistinct] united view of all these forces democratically arrived at. And we must proceed from the position that our task is to win a revolution. The school, college, the university is for us more than a place for formal education. It is also an assembly point, the location at which we marshal our forces, organize them and take the opportunity to give the order of the day. We must fight the enemy [words indistinct] institutions of learning in order to build and organize our democratic structures and within which we should introduce the system of people's education which is a decisive element in the future of our country and (?nation). [Words indistinct] will put us in a better position further to advance the struggle for a people's education [words indistinct].

How difficult this struggle is of course epitomized by the fact that, as nowhere else in the world, [words indistinct] inside and outside our classrooms, trying to deny us the right to learn and teach and attempting to impose on us (?racial)[words indistinct]."

### Navy Force Seconded to Army For Unrest Support

*MB150715 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] South Africa's Chief of Navy Staff Operations Commodore Lambert Woodburn says in the past few months the number of unrest-related incidents in South Africa decreased by 80 percent. He says that with the help of the Defense Force, the police are having increasing success in restoring order in black residential areas. Commodore Woodburn was informing Navy citizen force members in Port Elizabeth of a new call-up system under which members of the Navy are temporarily seconded to the Army to serve in unrest areas. He said the Defense Force was prepared to offer its services where needed, and at this stage help was needed to normalize the domestic situation.

### IBM To Cease Operations After Purchase by Trust

*MB151006 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0952 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 15, SAPA — IBM South Africa will cease operations in the Republic when the corporation is bought by a trust on March 1, the managing director, Mr Jack Clarke, said today. He was reacting to a *Financial Times* report in London yesterday that said IBM had not withdrawn from South Africa despite its declared decision to disinvest. Mr Clarke told SAPA today that the corporation was being purchased by a trust and that the trust would "operate for the benefit of our employees."

The London report was based on unnamed trades union statements that they had a copy to a leaked letter written by Mr Clarke, IBM's former South African managing director who now heads a new marketing company reported to have been set up to market IBM products. According to the *Financial Times*, Mr Clarke's letter was aimed at giving IBM's South African customers "unequivocal assurances" about continuity of supply. It was not clear from the report whether the trades union quoted were South African or British. The *Financial Times* quoted IBM in New York as saying it could not comment on the letter but added that the corporation insisted it was leaving South Africa.

Mr Clarke said that when the deal became effective on March 1, "the IBM corporation will have no investment, no assets, and no employees in South Africa. It will only have a debt owed by a trust. On March 1, we will announce a new company, with a new name, totally independent of IBM."

He said IBM would fully comply with us export regulations. "The change in ownership gives us no licence to breach those regulations. If we did breach those regulations we would lose our licences and would be in exactly the same position as a wholly owned subsidiary."

Mr Clarke said the change in ownership permitted the new company to market products in addition to the IBM range. "It gives us flexibility to get involved — ourselves, or with a partner — in local manufacturing or assembly but clearly provided there are no U.S. patents or copyrights covered by the regulations." Mr Clarke added that there was "no hidden agenda, nothing under cover about what we are doing. The IBM corporation will have no operations in South Africa."

### Information Bureau Issues 14 Jan Unrest Report

*MB150941 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0937 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 15, SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information's daily unrest report:

"Unrest report 00h01 to 24h00 (14 January)

"About 1000 radical blacks stoned members of the security forces in Lingelihle (Cradock) yesterday. The assailants were dispersed with birdshot. A security force member sustained slight facial injuries. No arrests have yet been made.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks. No injuries or arrests were reported.

IPLC [Inter-Departmental Press Liaison Committee] statistics — issued by the Bureau for Information at the request of the members of the IPLC.

"Since 11 December 1986, 319 reports have been submitted to the IPLC. Of these, 158 fell outside the ambit of regulation 3(1) and required no further action on the part of IPLC members. Twenty-eight were authorised by the relevant departments, 79 were refused authorisation, 19 were referred to departments by their spokesmen and 28 dealt with the IPLC itself. Two reports required only confirmation and five reports had already appeared in print which made a request for authorisation redundant."

End report.

### Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB150633 [Editorial Report]

**THE CITIZEN: ANC Not Vital to Negotiations**

"We do not expect the ANC to abandon violence, since it could have done so before today," says Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 14 January in its page 6 editorial. "Also, we do not regard the ANC as vital to any negotiations, because the ANC is not willing to negotiate anything except a hand-over of power to the black masses." The paper asks the PFP, "its Press and its business allies": "Do you think that the ANC has in store for South Africa a democratic system which satisfies all the ideals of the liberals — or will we end up a Black Marxist, one-party state if the ANC came to power?" "If this country is facing a revolutionary onslaught, as the government claims, or is approaching, or is in, a state of civil war, as the radicals and their

supporters claim, then isn't it necessary to stop trying to overthrow the existing order?" "You can neither promote, nor support, nor condone, nor accept the legitimacy of the ANC while it uses terrorism, while it refuses to abandon violence, while it trics to overthrow the State."

**THE STAR: Black School Attendance Positive**

"Many thousands of black pupils returned to their classrooms last week in what could be one of the most positive turns in South Africa's political climate for some years," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 14 January. "The return to school has been a triumph for reason. Parents, pupils, various black organisations and the DET [Department of Education and Training] itself deserve credit for restoring some sort of normality — however delicately it may be balanced. There has never been a better time for a reciprocal gesture of reconciliation."

**Constructive Thinking Candidates Needed**

"Parliament can look forward to an infusion of new blood when white voters go to the polls later this year," says a second editorial on the same page. "With the Government taking an increasingly repressive line, and reform almost at a standstill, things do not look encouraging at present. The Right is not going to do it, but it is up to all other parties to bring forward candidates attuned to the need for change and for throwing off the shackles of old-style apartheid. It should be almost common cause that change must take place rapidly to provide full rights for all citizens. Apart from that, and whether candidates are from the HNP or the PFP, they all need to bring fresh and constructive thinking to bear on a situation that has become logjammed."

**BUSINESS DAY: PFP Policy Prevents Majority Tyranny**

On page 4 of Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 14 January PFP leader Colin Eglin speaks to Robin Friedland on the PFP policy on economics, unions and agriculture. Friedland says the proposed PFP constitution for SA "provides for elaborate consensual mechanism to prevent a tyranny of the majority. But appropriation bills may be passed by a simple majority in the proposed Federal Parliament." Eglin points out that the "whole character of the PFP constitution provides for a clear separation between provincial and Federal levels, so that not all your money bills will be passed at one sight." Concerning PFP policy on unions, Eglin says "unions are entitled to protect their members, but they should not do so in such a way that they prevent Third World people from entering the modern economy. Government policy at all times should aim for deregulation and the removal of arbitrary restrictions which prevent people from entering the market and the First World sector — to ensure that the threshold of entry for labour is kept as low as possible." He notes that "the greatest pressure towards militancy in current trade union practise is politicisation stemming from government's unwillingness to allow blacks any other political outlet." The PFP approach towards agricultural policy "would be towards a free market system without administered prices." As for black agriculture, "to cure rural black poverty, the first step is to remove surplus people from the land through industrial development, especially the cottage industry type. Then we have to get away from tribal land tenure and give the individual black farmer access to arable land. There are large tracts of SA under white ownership which are not being productively used."

**CAPE TIMES on Renouncement of NP Support**

A page 8 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 13 January comments on former founder of the *The Citizen* and "one-time government publisher," Louis Luyt, who renounced his support for the National Party. "Mr Luyt's move will not be greeted with enthusiasm by an ageing, grim, played-out Nationalist leadership which is looking more Russian by the day. It has portentously surrounded itself with meaningless satellites, ceremonial concrete, sashes and bunting, overgrown bureaucracies and compliant media, topped with an immense but Goliath-like security apparatus. In the process it has lost touch with what is happening on the ground. Its ponderous flounderings are reactive and short-term. By contrast, Mr Luyt wants to 'save South Africa' and secure a future for his children and grand-children. He is moving in the right direction."

**Tutu 'Man of Peace'**

A second editorial on the same page comments on Archbishop Tutu's "controversy" which he caused in Australia by saying that the touring Australian cricketers "are letting down the anti-apartheid side." "Whites inclined to get hot under the collar might note that Archbishop Tutu is speaking from experience of the traumas of daily life in the black townships and notably in Soweto, which was his home before he moved to the Cape. On at least one occasion he has braved the wrath of the mob to save a suspected informer from the horror of a necklacing. His credentials as a man of peace are not in doubt. Yet his sense that time is running out for peaceful solutions is manifest."

**SOWETAN Criticizes Colored Appointments**

A page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 14 January comments on the appointment of colored Ambassador Frank Quint to the Netherlands and Bhandra Ranchod as South African envoy in Europe saying: "Without casting any aspersions on the two men's abilities, there is no reason to disbelieve the view that their appointments are political ploys by South Africa to try and whitewash a badly tarnished international image. It should take a person with an especially thick skin to take up a diplomatic job for South Africa in these difficult days." "It is rather difficult for white South Africans to justify some of the evil policies from their country. It must take some doing for a black person to tell the world that the South African Government is doing its best to alleviate the suffering of his people."

**DIE VADERLAND: Support for NP**

On page 10 of Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 14 January J.S. Liebenberg says in his "My View" column that with the coming election there will be critical evaluations of the NP and "there will be much for which it can be criticized." But, "the government has rejected apartheid and that in itself is an encouraging development because it can admit its errors. That means that it can search for another solution without the inhibitions of its past. The NP has become more pragmatic. It admits the right of all groups and individuals to participation in the government. Even though the recipe has not yet been found, and it has not won the cooperation and trust of black leaders, it has declared its pursuit of negotiations and power sharing, for a peaceful solution." "To its right stand the CP/HNP alliance which reaches back to that which is inaccessible. I do not see my way clear to entrusting my future to leaders who cling to a disaster. To the left of the NP stands the PFP/NRP alliance. It is an alliance

which earlier was too unreconcilable to stay together. I am not optimistic about such a handicapped union."

**BEELD: ANC Tries To Bluff U.S.**

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 14 January says that "the ANC can try to bluff an eager U.S. audience that it is not as violent as is suggested, and that it can be an acceptable alternative government for South Africa. It will only mislead those who want to be misled. It begins to look as if there are people in the U.S. Government who will gladly look past the awesome face of the ANC and look to the hated Boer government which must always bear the blame for everything." "There is however, a simple way in which the U.S. Department of State can test the sincerity of the ANC intentions. Ask them why they do not openly renounce violence and negotiate with the South African Government?"

## ZAMBIA

**Rumors of Kaunda Heart Attack 'Irresponsible'**

*MB141807 Dakar PANA in English 1806 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Lusaka, 14 Jan (ZANA/PANA) — A State House spokesman today in Lusaka dismissed as nonsensical and irresponsible foreign news agency rumours that President Kaunda has suffered a heart attack. There was no truth whatsoever in the allegation, the spokesman said, in fact President Kaunda was keeping up with his vigorous schedule of work at State House. The spokesman said the president had this morning chaired a lengthy meeting of chairmen of the sub-committees of the party and was this afternoon busy at his desk as usual.

The spokesman added that it was clear the president is in excellent health and advised people to dismiss rumours that he is unwell with the contempt it deserved.

**Pamphlets Circulated Call for Kaunda Overthrow**

*MB141737 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Jan 87 p 4*

[Text] Lusaka — Pamphlets calling on the Zambian people to topple President Kenneth Kaunda's government are circulating in the politically volatile Copperbelt, it was officially disclosed here.

Mr Godfrey Simasiku, governor in the town of Ndola, said yesterday enemies of the government had stepped up their campaign "to discredit the administration".

The pamphlets were printed and the security forces were trying to establish their origin.

## ZIMBABWE

**Mugabe, Chissano To Meet in Victoria Falls**

*MB141939 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1935 GMT 14 Jan 87*

[Text] Harare Jan 14 SAPA — The Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, leaves Harare this morning for Victoria Falls where he will hold talks with the Mozambican president, Mr Joaquim Chissano, ZIANA the semi-official news agency reports.

A statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Mr Mugabe will head a high powered delegation which will include: the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Witness Mangwende, the minister of state defence, Mr Ernest Kaiungure, and the minister of state security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa. Also in the delegation will be the minister of transport, Mr Herbert Ushewokunze, and the minister of trade and commerce, Mr Oliver Munyaradzi, as well as senior government officials.

**Talks Begin**

*MB150930 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0914 GMT 15 Jan 87*

[Text] Victoria Falls, Jan 15, SAPA — The Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, and the Mozambican leader, Mr Joacquim Chissano, began talks here this morning expected to centre on the situation in southern Africa. Mr Mugabe arrived shortly after 9am and President Chissano's jet landed an hour later, ZIANA, Zimbabwe's semi-official news agency, reported.

Mr Mugabe's delegation includes the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende, the minister of state (security), Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, the minister of transport, Mr Herbert Ushewokunze, and the minister of trade and commerce, Mr Oliver Munyaradzi.

Mr Chissano is accompanied by his transport and communications minister, Lieutenant-General Armando Guebuza, and the minister of information, Mr Teodato Honwana.

No details of the talks have been released.

It is the first time Mr Mugabe is meeting Mr Chissano on Zimbabwean soil as head of state since Mr Chissano succeeded the late president Samora Machel on November 6. The two leaders last met in Lusaka during the December 21 Frontline States summit.

**Banana Appeals to Botha for Majority Rule**

*MB141553 Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Jan 87 pp 1, 5*

[By Charles Chikerema]

[Text] President P.W. Botha of the apartheid regime of South Africa should accept democracy and the fact that white minority

rule is doomed, President Banana told *The Herald* yesterday. He said in an interview: "I would like to appeal to Botha, not to continue to resist the march of history, but to accept democracy and to accept that white minority rule is doomed, because the sooner he does this the better, not necessarily for the blacks, for these will be free whether he likes it or not, but for his kind, the criminal kind, opposed to the liberation struggle of the people of South Africa and Namibia."

He said those whites in South Africa who were lending support to the liberation struggle but the sooner the criminal element surrenders [words illegible] the better for themselves.

President Banana said that Africans were magnanimous people as Zimbabwe had proved.

The people of Zimbabwe and their leaders had gone through imprisonment and torture, while atrocities and massacres against defenseless refugees had been committed at Nazonia, Chimoio, and in Zambia and Botswana.

"Yet in spite of all that we came back and said that we would forgive the past.

"We could not forget it, but we forgave the past and today we seat in Parliament drinking tea with the culprits who murdered our people mercilessly," the President said.

He said it was imperative that Botha and company look to this African magnanimity and the sooner they recognised it the better for themselves.

The President feared, he said, that "the longer the struggle continues in South Africa and the racists failed to surrender until the last minute, it could create a clumsy situation, because who knows what the nature of the backlash would be like at independence".

President Banana who was making an assessment of the major problems likely to face Zimbabwe in the new year within the framework of the unfolding struggle for the liberation of South Africa and Namibia and the security of the Frontline States, said: "We know the pains and pangs of subjugation, and hence we rose against it and overthrew the system in this country."

He said Zimbabwe, because of that, had no need for anyone to "teach us the imperative need to be free, because for us the absence of freedom spells doom and death, so we appreciate the struggle of the people of South Africa against the obnoxious system of apartheid there and that being waged against the illegal occupation of Namibia by the people of that country."

The President said that Zimbabwe would continue to play its part on the diplomatic front and provide whatever material assistance it could through the Organisation of African Unity, to advance the struggle in South Africa and Namibia.

He said it had to be appreciated that the security of the Frontline States could only be guaranteed by a free South Africa and a free Namibia.

"For as long as apartheid persists in South Africa and for as long as there is illegal occupation of Namibia there can be no security for the Frontline States.

"So we are absolutely conscious of the fact that our security will not derive from the charity or good will of the apartheid regime, regarding us at some point as good boys, behaving ourselves," the President said.

He said the apartheid regime was good at shifting blame and focus of attention away from its internal situation, because it knows there exists an untenable situation in South Africa, hence it resorted to attacking its neighbours in order to divert attention.

"So no amount of good behaviour can placate the adventurous and blood-mongering behaviour of the leaders of the apartheid regime, because whatever you do they will attack you anyway."

He said Zimbabwe's support for the South Africa and Namibian liberation struggle was based on the principle that the struggle was legitimate and just.

He said Zimbabwe's support for the South Africa and Namibian liberation struggle was based on the principle that the struggle was legitimate and just.

He said Zimbabwe's support was neither opportunistic nor was it based on expediency, "because being good boys, by the apartheid regime's standards will not guarantee our security".

His advice to the apartheid regime authorities, he said was that they would be doing themselves a good service if they paid more attention to solving their internal problems rather than witch-hunting and indulging in cross-border violence against the Front-line States.

On the international scene the President said that the progressive forces had banded together and said enough was enough "and that apartheid must go and that the people of South Africa and Namibia must be free".

But there had also been encouraging signs in the Western countries, as far as public opinion in the UK, France and the US was concerned.

"The vote by the US Congress to override President Reagan's veto over economic sanctions against South Afria, was indicative of the US public opinion against South Africa," President Banana said.

He said although "we are saying the sanctions measures so far taken are not enough, none the less a signal has been sent to Pretoria that apartheid is a crime not only against the South African people but against humanity".

"So one hopes that the regimes in the United Kingdom and in America, will read their own public opinion and align themselves with their people," the President said, adding that his hopes for the New Year, were that throughout the world, the forces of progress and justice would gain momentum and that the forces of negotiation, of reaction and imperialism would get isolated

more and more, "as we march into the year 1987 and beyond".

### HERALD Urges ZAPU Acceptance of Unity Proposals

*MB141403 Harare THE HERALD in English*
*1 Jan 87 p 6*

[Editorial: "Hope Focus on Unity"]

[Text] If a single word summed up the hopes of Zimbabweans for 1987 that word is UNITY [preceding word in all caps]...internal unity reforging the Patriotic Front links that bonded ZANU [PF] and ZAPU during the struggle...regional unity to withstand the storm about to break over South Africa.

The two unities are inseparable. Political unity is essential as Zimbabwe confronts the forces Pretoria is sure to unleash on her black neighbours as international sanctions increasingly put the squeeze on the South African economy.

The threat posed by an embattled apartheid should be a sufficient unifying force in itself. But still talks on and off the boil for well over a year go on. Time and again just as an end to the negotiations seems in sight, the longed-for settlement has vanished like a mirage.

Hopes were again raised this week as the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, and ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, met for another round of talks. But when a news agency report quoted ZAPU sources as saying that the meeting was "the final round of discussions", Dr Nkomo was noticeably quick with a denial. Not surprising that ordinary Zimbabweans are becoming increasingly impatient with the cat and mouse game ZAPU appears to be playing while wondering how long it will be before the Government, which has bent over backwards in its attempts to achieve a merger, also runs out of patience.

It is high time the ZAPU leadership realised that the longer its holds out the more it angers the mass of Zimbabweans concerned at the soft spot failure to merge exposes to an enemy notorious for exploiting weaknesses.

The renewed dissident activity leading to the likelihood of district council elections being postponed in parts of Matabeleland North, notably Hwange, Lupane, Binga and Nkayi, is the most recent reminder of the consequences of ZAPU intransigence continuing to expose our southern flank.

Those angry Zimbabweans include many of ZAPU's own supporters growing increasingly tired of disruptive elements in their midst. For them unity will make it more difficult for the dissidents to operate and open the way for them to get on with much-needed development projects.

Everyone stands to gain if party rivalries are finally put aside, but the national need comes first: unity to enable Zimbabwe to concentrate exclusively on the next vital phase of the war against apartheid: opening and securing the Beira Corridor on which Zimbabwe and the rest of the region will so heavily rely come the crunch.

On Tuesday Cde Mugabe and President Kaunda of Zambia agreed that stronger economic and communications links must be forged between their two countries in face of the South African manance. The theme has been the same at all the recent meetings between leaders throughout the region as pressure to topple apartheid mounts.

Just as ZAPU must put aside narrow party considerations for the national good so must the countries linked by their determination to free Azania look beyond national aims and look to the general good of the region.

Given strength through unity, 1987 could be a year of destiny in the final struggle.

### Talks With Bulgaria on 'Sluggish' Trade Continue

*MB132012 Dakar PANA in English 1615 GMT*
*13 Jan 87*

[Text] Harare, 13 Jan (ZIANA/PANA) — Zimbabwe and Bulgaria today began a third session of bi-lateral talks to boost sluggish trade between the two countries.

The deputy prime minister, Simon Mazenda, told a 17-member Bulgarian delegation that the lack of visible trade with Bulgaria was not a true reflection of the potential. He also apologised for delays in holding the third session of talks during the second quarter of last year. This should not in any way portray any impression of lack of political will and dedication to co-operate between our peoples and governments, Muzenda said.

He urged that the current session work with real earnest and diligence to find ways of increasing the volume of trade between the two countries. Previous trade talks covered co-operation in agriculture and scholarships for manpower trading and development, said Muzenda. Zimbabwe regional [words indistinct] development plan against a backdrop of persisting world economic recession. With our limited resources we may not alone be able to achieve our development targets and we naturally call upon friendly countries like Bulgaria to increase development co-operation with us for the mutual benefit of our peoples, the deputy prime minister said.

The head of the Bulgarian delegation, Deputy Prime Minister Georgi Karamanev, said there were a number of unused possibilities for future co-operation between his country and Zimbabwe. I do believe we will be discussing and mapping out at the present session concrete measures for implementation of our mutual agreements, CDE Karamanev said. Some of the areas of co-operation he outlined included:

"Finalising discussions on the setting up of a joint Zimbabwe-Bulgaria company, AGRA, for the production and marketing of agricultural products, closer ties between scientific and agricultural research institutes, freshwater fish breeding and afforestation, forest development and exploitation.

"An urgent study of the Bulgarian offers in the industrial field, including joint assembly and sales of trucks, hoists, building a production plant for wood and metal work machine and prepara-

tion of veterinary medicines.

"Consideration of getting Bulgarian expertise in the building of Zimbabwean administrative offices, governmental complexes and guest houses.

"Continuing discussions on the setting up of a joint company for research and exploitation of mining and geological deposits at Mudzi, Rushinga.

"Granting of expertise to assemble typewriters, cash registers and personal computers locally.

"Strengthening relations in education, scientific and technical co-operation and tourism. [no end quotation mark as received]

Our industry is interested in buying Zimbabwean tobacco, cotton, asbestos and hides in exchange for hoists, metal cutting machines, chemical and pharmaceutical products, pumps and other goods, said CDE Karamanev. He (?expected trade) between the two countries to reach a total of 20 million US dollars this year. Commodity lists have been prepared for this session of trade talks.